

The MARINE CORPS GAZETTE

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TRAINING NATIVE TROOPS IN SANTO DOMINGO

BY LIEUTENANT EDWARD A. FELLOWES, U.S.M.C.

SINCE the Americans landed in Santo Domingo in 1916, and took over the functions of the native cabinet and department officials, under the name of the Military Government of Santo Domingo, they have been working with ceaseless, and it must be remarked, almost unrecognized energy, to improve conditions in the Island Republic, to evolve order out of political and economical chaos, and eventually to turn over to the natives a nucleus with which to work in the establishment of self-governed Republic. One branch of Government work which has been receiving a great part of the attention of the American forces is the establishment of a native police force, or constabulary, sufficiently large and efficient to support the Government established when the new Constitutional President will have been elected, and when the affairs of government will have passed out of the hands of the Americans into those of the Dominicans themselves.

In passing, it may be noted that the direct cause of the American intervention in 1916, was the continued failure of the Dominican Government to pay off the necessary installments of the Dominican National Debt, although an American receiver of customs had been appointed to Santo Domingo in 1908, and this failure, combined with a political rebellion which was then raging in the Island, and had paralyzed all economic functions, made intervention necessary.

In the old days, the Dominicans had no force which by any stretch of the imagination could be called an army. There existed the Guardia Republicana, or Republican Guard, which was supposed to be a supporting force to the existing Government, but in those days this force was undermined by politics, and presidents came and went with such rapidity that this force was never of any value. It had been composed of some three or four hundred ragged, untrained men, under officers as ignorant as themselves, and at the first sign of politi-

cal unrest quickly went over to the side of the presidential candidate who seemed to be the most powerful and to have the largest war chest. Since 1916, however, the Americans have been trying to form a nucleus with which to build up a strong, well-trained, efficient and loyal National Constabulary which will be the loyal supporter of the President against his enemies, and which will be the lawful guardian of law and order in the Island.

On account of the lack of funds, the absence of practical ideas, the usual procrastination found in tropical countries and the effort required to get any idea past the barrier of limited native intelligence, the idea has been evolving slowly—has been as it were in the chrysalis stage—until very recently when the chrysalis has begun to show signs of life. The command of the old National Army passed into the hands of the American Military Occupation, together with the administration of the other Departments upon the establishment of the Military Government in 1916 by Admiral H. S. Knapp, U. S. Navy, and since that date this command has changed hands several times, due to the transfers and change of Military Governors. In 1920, Lieutenant Colonel Presley M. Rixey, Jr., of the U. S. Marine Corps, who had been acting as Secretary of Interior and Police under Admiral Thomas S. Snowden, then Military Governor, and who was closely in touch with military and police affairs, was appointed Colonel Commandant of the Guardia Republicana, and it is this officer to whom I believe, should go the distinction of making the first definite and practical effort to raise the Constabulary to the necessary strength and properly to train and equip this force. He took the bit in his teeth, and was well begun on the work of organization and training when he was taken ill and invalidated home to the United States. He was succeeded as Colonel Commandant by Lieutenant Colonel Richard M. Cutts, U. S. M. C., who took up the work where Colonel Rixey left off.

It is no wonder that Colonel Rixey was invalidated home. The job he undertook would have broken most men. I know what he had to go through, for I was serving directly under him during practically his whole tour of duty. I know the heartbreaking lack of funds which kept him awake nights, trying to find a way to make two *pesos* grow where only one grew before and the agonizing red-tape connected with every official act of the native functionaries. It was enough to drive an ordinary man insane a thousand times. But Colonel Rixey came through it all, and saw his ideas well on the road

to development, when he was forced to give up his position through ill-health.

Colonel Rixey started out with a simple and well-defined plan, and stuck to it, which, after all, is the plan which is drilled into the heads of all officers from their youthful years in the service, and is applicable to big situations as well as to Minor Tactics. He knew that within two or three years the Government would pass into the hands of the Dominicans and he had to perfect his plan within this allotted time. At the time he took over the Guardia Republicana, which name he changed to Policia Nacional Dominicana, or Dominican National Constabulary, the Department of Public Works was about to finish a road between the Capital, Santo Domingo City, and Santiago, the chief city of the northern section of the Island, which road would connect the northern and southern portions of the Island. Colonel Rixey emphasized the necessary phase of "mobility," and planned to enlist, equip, and train a force of 1200 men, of which 500 were to be based on the Capital, and 500 on Santiago, and the remainder to be used as a border patrol between Santo Domingo and Haiti on the west. The two larger forces were to be made sufficiently mobile to be able to move immediately from their bases to that zone in which their services might be needed, their transportation to be by truck. Of course this did not mean that the entire force would be quartered in these two cities. Outposts were to be established in the most important strategic points about the Island, at road centres and important commercial sections, but the main portions of the force would be attached to the two large cities. In a nutshell, the above was the plan, but first and foremost, the right sort of men had to be recruited, and instilled with the fundamental principles of discipline and training, neither of which had been a part of the equipment of the old Guardia Republicana. It was comparatively easy to get the men, as the seventeen dollars per month loomed large in the eyes of peons accustomed to work ten hours a day for twenty cents or less. But the matter of training was a different story. There was the difficulty of getting the necessary appropriation from the National Budget, the necessary arrangements to secure additional equipment and supplies, and the question of the procurement of suitable training sites, of which there were none at that time available. However, when I left Santo Domingo in 1923, there had been developed in two years a force of 1200 efficient native constabulary, and Colonel Rixey's plan had been nearly completely developed as he had dreamed

in 1920. It is the writer's intention to give an idea of the manner in which the plan was developed, including some side-lights on the training problem.

* * * * *

I was commissioned a Captain in the Policia National Dominicana, in August, 1921. It was the practice to secure the necessary officers from the United States Marine Corps to augment the small force of native officers then in existence, detaching them from the Marine Corps for special temporary duty, and paying them additional compensation from the Dominican funds for their work with the Dominican troops.

After hanging around Headquarters for a few days trying out my pidgin-Spanish on the defenseless members of the clerical force, I ran into Colonel Rixey, who asked me if I were ready to begin to earn my extra pay. When I necessarily replied in the affirmative, "Fine," said he, "You go out to Haina, and see if we will be able to start an officers' school out there about the fifteenth of this month. I'm planning on about thirty native officers. Let me know what you will need."

Haina was the location of the Government Agricultural Experimental Station, and was about ten miles from the Capital, on the sea shore. It had been the intention of the Government to start an Agricultural College there, and to this end, in addition to the necessary buildings of the Experimental Station, there had been erected two big stucco buildings on the style of the Spanish Mission. Thither I bumped my way on an aged motorcycle, with an order from the Secretary of Agriculture, then Commander Ralph M. Warfield, U. S. Navy, to the man in charge of the station, to put the two school buildings at my disposal, and to do anything else helpful which might occur to him. It appeared that funds had run out upon the completion of the buildings for the proposed Agricultural School, and that there was none left for the furthering of the project. The Administrator was a melancholy Dane named Holger Johansen, and he was not quite crazy about being dispossessed so abruptly. However, he reluctantly agreed that "orders was orders," and accompanied me on an inspection of the buildings, which I found would be ideal for an officers' school. The dormitory had ten rooms which would easily accommodate three men each, in addition to a well equipped kitchen, a mess-hall, and office space; the other building was already equipped with desks and facilities for school-room work, and I spent the whole

day checking over many hundreds of kitchen utensils, and sleeping equipment, each of the former of which had a different and intricate technical name in Spanish. This last occupation gave me an indication of the difficulties ahead of me, for although I had a thorough basic knowledge of Spanish "from the book," I had never had much occasion to use it, and a theoretical and speaking knowledge of a language are as far apart as the poles, as anyone well knows who has tried it.

After a hectic week spent in arguing with a storeroom keeper, who seemed to be laboring under the delusion that everything in his storeroom was his personal property, I finally collected enough equipment with which to make a start, and on the 14th was installed in my new quarters at Haina, nervously awaiting the first arrivals. The thirty officers were to be detached from their various posts about the Island, about which they were scattered on outpost duty. That last night was to be my last peaceful one for many moons. The next day I was to take up my duties as nurse, Commanding Officer and Father Confessor for thirty hard-boiled native officers, and the prospects looked black. However, on checking over our outfit, I decided that we had everything necessary except a vote of confidence in myself, so I rose and unanimously gave myself one. Early the next morning the thirty thieves began to drift in from town in groups of twos and threes until all were present or accounted for.

I corralled the whole outfit, and tried to give them a rough idea of what we were here for. This probably seemed to them a repetition of the word "trabajo," (work) and although there was not too much enthusiasm displayed, whether they understood or not, each and every one grinned after every sentence uttered in my halting and inaccurate Spanish, and with a smile showing a wide expanse of white teeth against an ebony background repeated in chorus "Si, Senor, esta bien," although I wagered at the time that they didn't know what I was talking about. The day was spent in getting shaken down, as the Navy expression goes, and organized, and night finally fell upon our activities. Then began my trials in earnest. Looking back upon those days and nights of trial and worry, I am inclined to smile to myself, but at the time they were certainly no smiling matter. The windmill stopped working at about six o'clock that night, and there was no water except in a cistern two or three hundred yards from the building. These natives, having been duly impressed with their dignity as officers, refused to haul it themselves, and George, our house boy, a

native of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, complained that the "misery" in his feet precluded his doing it, and refused to be ordered about by these "young whuppersnappers," and between his voluble refusal and their doubly voluble insistence, the house was in an uproar in five minutes, reaching a climax when Teniente Jose Arias discovered that someone had made off with his pillow. This shouldn't have seemed such a dire calamity to him, in view of the fact that his pillow in the past had been either his saddle, or a projecting root, but to him the theft appeared as an insult and irreparable loss, to say nothing of the affront to his dignity. And these people can be dignified, when they try. The only discrepancy in their dignified bearing is that it appears to be the dignity of a child playing grown-up, and is soon discarded for some childish squabble, or youthful frivolity.

By this time my brain was in a turmoil, and all my Spanish vocabulary had forsaken me. I was just about to pull my Colt automatic, and wander forth to do wholesale murder, when there was a knock on my door, followed by the intrusion of a grinning, lantern-jawed Irish face, from which issued the information that "Hell was poppin' outside," and a question as to the cause of all the "roompus." I decided that Heaven had indeed been good to me, when I found out who my visitor was. His name was Joseph M. Feeley, and his rank a Major in the Policia. The story of his career ran like one of Richard Harding Davis' novels. He had served twelve years in the United States Cavalry, had been one of the famous Pennsylvania State Troopers, and had been for two years a sergeant in the Canal Zone Police, and was a true and efficient soldier of fortune. "Let me still the tumult," said he, "and then we can talk. He did and we did. It appeared that he had been detached from one of the posts in the Northern District, and ordered in command of this school. He was a valuable man for the job, for he had been four years in the Policia, knew most of the officers personally, and spoke the lingo like a native.

I thanked my lucky stars that he had arrived, for he could still a native in one of his frequent "tantrums" with a few well turned syllables, and knew secrets about handling the sensitive and high-strung Dominican which proved of valuable use to me in my short career in the Policia. I have never seen a more capable man for his particular sort of job. In this country where the five gallon gasoline can serves as the all round cooking utensil and instrument of general utility, and where even tools have frequently to be made before a job can be completed, he was like a magician. His motto was "If it's got to be done, we'll do it," and somehow or other we always did,

although a less capable or less conscientious man would have given up trying. He was an efficient officer in other respects, too; a hard disciplinarian, but withal very fair, he soon gained the respect of everyone under him, for when a man knows that he will be fairly treated as long as he does his best, he is bound to be satisfied with his superiors.

With Feeley and me as the instructing staff, we got away to a good start on August 18th, with a regular schedule laid out by us and approved by the Colonel Commandant. The mornings up to ten o'clock were spent in drill under me, and followed by two hours of class-room work under Feeley in Company Administration and Paper Work, with the afternoons devoted to other subjects. The entire schedule included instruction in the subjects of Drill, Administration, Topography, Tactics, Musketry, First Aid, Military Hygiene, Sanitation and Elementary Agriculture under Mr. Johansen, whom we persuaded to join our staff.

So, ahead we went, Feeley and I learning as much as our pupils, in one way, for the billet of professors was new to each of us, and intensely interesting. My greatest trouble was getting my lectures into Spanish. I would write out the lectures for the following day in Spanish the night before, after much gruelling effort, and then get one of my officers who spoke a little English to correct the Spanish. I could have used Celso Carlos, the English-speaking officer, as an interpreter, but as a matter of pride, and with the end of eventually increased efficiency, I never did, except in a tight place. Inside of a very short time, I was lecturing without notes, and at the end of the four months' course I was speaking Spanish with little or no effort.

If more space were available, I would go more deeply into the description of this first course in military training which had ever been given native officers. These officers had been appointed by political friends, or had risen from the ranks, and had been commissioned by some superior officer. Few if any had ever been examined for commissions. They knew bush-fighting well, because from infancy it had been a matter of necessity, but had no real knowledge of military science. Some of the thirty were weighed and found wanting during the course, and were recommended by us for dismissal, in which we were upheld by Headquarters. These few instances that we meant business had a good effect upon the others, who applied themselves with all the more diligence when they had seen their companions go by the board.

We graduated the class as scheduled, about the middle of December, with appropriate speeches by the Archbishop of Santo Domingo, the Military Governor, and the Colonel Commandant, and the embryo officers were very proud as they stood up in their new Sam Browne belts which had just been adopted by the Policia, and received their diplomas.

It may be remarked that the graduation of this first small class was a very small start in the matter of training the Policia Nacional Dominicana. We realized it well enough, but the start had been made, which fact is the biggest part of any project of this kind. The thirty officers were the only native officers there were in the Policia at the time. They had been scattered all over the Island in small detachments, from Monte Cristi on the north to the Capital on the south, and from the Haitian border at Dajabon, to Samana Bay on the east. They would return to their various outposts, and would freely discuss the new Academia Militar of which they were honorable graduates. This propaganda would spread, and would foster the idea that there might really be something in this new project, and that the Americans really meant business. This would aid in gaining new recruits with which it was necessary to bring the existing strength of 500 up to the intended 1200. In addition to this, our officers had received valuable instruction in the elements of agriculture, hygiene, and sanitation, which instruction had been given them with the understanding that it was to be used by them in the betterment of conditions in the provinces in which their posts were located. Thus, although the start was small, it had its possibilities.

The first class having thus passed into history as a successful experiment, Feeley and I were looking forward to a few weeks of leisure, when orders arrived to make the necessary provisions to receive two full companies of enlisted recruits for a course of three months' duration. Our eyes wandered from the weed-covered parade ground to the scrubby undergrowth bordering it on all sides, and found no level space sufficiently large to accommodate tents for a squad, much less two companies, and we silently inquired of each other, "Where in Sam Hill shall we put them?" And there was no answer.

* * * * *

The next day, following up his order, Colonel Rixey drove out from Headquarters, and Major Feeley being absent, I had the honor of discussing with him ways and means of accommodating the two

companies, which would be composed of 200 wild bushwhackers, who had never been in a military camp, knew nothing of the meaning of discipline, and were bound to be difficult to manage. All the newcomers would be practically raw recruits, besprinkled with a few old-timers in order to help the green (dark green) rookies to find their way into military life without serious mishap. We were to have two old top sergeants, and about six old sergeants to divide between the two companies, and these men would have to bear the brunt of the attack, as far as forcibly knocking the men into shape was concerned. A recruit learns more, in one way, from his experienced non-commissioned officers than he does from his officers. In addition to these non-commissioned officers, Headquarters sent us two of the most promising graduates of the recent officers' school as assistant instructors. These two lieutenants, Jose Navarro and Luis Alfonseca, were to prove invaluable to us. The manner in which they dispensed the knowledge to their subordinates, which they had absorbed in their recently finished training course, and their handling of the raw recruits, proved to us that our efforts had not been entirely in vain.

The Colonel confirmed his order in regards to making preparations to receive two new recruit companies. When I mumbled something about having them live in trees, he wandered to the fringe of scrub undergrowth surrounding the parade ground, and remarked in general terms that it would be a good place for a camp, and after a few further remarks, left us to our own devices, and drove off. The next morning when Feeley and I were scratching our heads, and wondering how we were to make the Colonel's suggestion a reality, there appeared upon the horizon a short, stocky figure in a broken-down Ford, with his feet hanging out one side over a mound of baggage, and a surveyor's transit poking its nose out the other side. When he had untangled himself from his luggage, and had brushed some of the red caleche dust from his breeches and high laced boots, he introduced himself as Lieutenant Winfield, ex-Headquarters Intelligence Officer, and one-time surveyor for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He was reporting in accordance with orders putting himself in charge of construction work at Haina, with instructions to proceed immediately with the grading of a suitable camp site, upon which to erect tents for the new recruit companies. We showed him the site which the Colonel Commandant had proposed and offered him our sympathies, but he merely grinned, and asked in the most matter of fact way if we could get him about a hundred civil prisoners from the National Peniten-

tiary at Boca Nigua, four miles away. Major Feeley got busy, and was promised the necessary presos, with guards.

The work was started on this camp early in November, Winfield working from dawn to dark with his prisoners, and Feeley and I struggling along with our native officers. All that could be seen of the prospective camp was a huge cloud of dust, peopled with big black men in the broad-striped garb of native prisoners, and ever and anon a fleeting glimpse of Winfield in the broad-brimmed Stetson that he affected, dashing hither and thither with transit and plumb-line. Feeley and I didn't dare ask many questions, as we felt that it would be tempting fate. To have this construction bugaboo off our hands was a great relief, and we had implicit faith in Winfield and his methods. And his methods were effective. He got the maximum amount of work out of his prisoners with the minimum amount of trouble, which latter might have been expected in large gobs, for in his gang were several "lifers," to say nothing of a goodly sprinkling of gentle murderers who were awaiting the time when the red-tape of the law courts would be sufficiently unreeled to permit of their being tried. In this connection it may be said it was not an uncommon thing for a political chief to throw a man who was impeding his progress into prison on suspicion, and thus get him out of the way, for it was frequently years before the courts got around to even investigate the case. I understand that this used to be the regular procedure in the old days, and when the Americans took over the judicial functions of the Republic they found upon going over the prison records many prisoners who had been there for as long as four or five years, with nothing tangible against them, others with regular offenses registered who had been awaiting trial for the same period of time, and even convicted or acquitted men whose trials had long been finished, and who were patiently awaiting the time when the Powers should see fit to take action.

About the middle of December, Winfield reported the grading finished, and we realized that the worst was over. All that remained to be done was the erection of "strong-backs," or wooden frames to which tents are lashed in permanent camps. When the tents were finally up, and each was surrounded with its white-washed stone ditch, the effect was remarkable, for, thanks to the care with which Winfield had used his transit, each tent was aligned to the fraction of an inch. The camp was, in this respect, unique, for it is rarely if ever that a camp is laid out with the care and precision with which ours was, as

may be evidenced from the fact that the Brigade Inspector gave us the highest mark of any military camp on the Island.

I have tried to impress upon the reader some of the difficulties we had to overcome with our small force and very limited resources, and from the example just cited it might appear that everything worked out smoothly and satisfactorily to its eventual conclusion, but we had many misfortunes which were a continual source of trouble and worry to us, as for example the case of our jinx, the windmill, which, as I have told, started the first day off by breaking down. The mill was erected over an artesian well and pumped water to a tank from which it was piped to the various buildings. About once a week during the early part of the school the air would be rent by loud screeching noises, a clangling sound, and then from our native personnel—"Ai, ai, el molino," and the windmill would be on the blink again. The first time we called in the village "carpintero," who labored under the saintly name of Pablo Incarnacion. Pablo was blessed with features which an artist might have used as a model for the face of a character in a Biblical group. When he was told of the catastrophe to the mill, he grunted "Bueno," through his crinkly Van Dyke beard, and climbed high into the rigging with a small black helper, and stayed there for weeks, banging steadily and lustily with a large steel sledge-hammer. Then he descended, announced "Ya reglado," and it seemed to be, until the wind blew again, when the dreaded series of metallic noises told us that it was again in a non-active status. With the advent of Winfield, we felt that we could cope successfully with any mechanical difficulties. The first time the windmill broke under his reign he cocked an eye aloft, cocked his Stetson over one eye, and called in a loud voice for "mille pies de soga," which, when translated into our language, means a thousand feet of rope. He then procured two huge pulleys, hooked the rope to something or other, and his prisoners started to pull. By noon of the next day the landscape was covered with long lengths of pipe. Winfield looked it all over, did something mysterious with a queer-looking wrench, painted everything visible with red lead, and lowered the pipe back into the ground again. It worked for a week, and broke again.

This time it was no novelty, and with the uncertainty of the water supply added to the daily uncertainty of the arrival of our rations due to the frailties of our ancient truck, our nerves were becoming somewhat frayed at the edges. This time we suddenly discovered that

there was an agent of the windmill company who had been living in town all the time unbeknownst to us. We somehow scraped together two hundred dollars from Policia Funds, and contracted with this man to fix the apparatus, and to guarantee that it would stay fixed. He was a cock-sure little pup named Walter Castillo. He said "I feex heem," clambered into the steel framework, bolted on a few spare parts, and the mill is still working, as far as I know.

Then there was the story of our ancient Ford truck, which carried the rations every day from town, and which broke down in the main Calle of the Capital one day in the middle of a political parade, but sentiment forbids my recalling any more unpleasant and harrowing incidents. Suffice it to say that we went through with everything we had planned to do in spite of lack of men, money and facilities, and learned much in the doing of it.

THE SECOND TRAINING PERIOD AND THE TRAINING POLICY

As I have stated previously, the next group to receive training was to be composed of two companies of enlisted men. Before going any further it may be stated that at about the same time that we, in the Department of the South opened our second training period, a Training Centre of about the same capacity as ours was opened in the Department of the North, at Santiago. It was the intention of Headquarters that two months should be the standard length of a training period, and that there should be four companies, about four hundred men, in training continuously. This meant that the entire force of 1200 men would receive the training in three training periods, or six months. Due to the fact that it was found that this plan drew too heavily on the various posts, this plan was finally changed so that one company at a time went through each training centre.

The second period started early in January, 1922. At last we had a camp and a fairly regular water and food supply, but as yet we had no parade ground sufficiently large to accommodate the new companies, so the first month was spent in grading the ground between the two buildings we used as a school. The subjects covered during this period were the more elementary ones, with the emphasis laid on drill, guard duty, and target practice. Of course discipline and military etiquette were absorbed as necessary corollaries of the strict camp life. We had many inspections and musters for the purpose of getting the men out of the habits of laxity in regard to personal cleanliness and neatness, as we felt that this would be our biggest

problem. The plan was to instill into this first phase of the training only the most elementary principles, and to get the companies off into active duty as quickly as possible, with the idea of having them return for the second and more advanced phase later on. This advanced phase would include night marches, and quick moves to various supposedly threatened areas of the Island, with more complicated manœuvres than we contemplated taking up in the first course.

Our first training course was so successful that the drill companies at Haina came to be a feature to be exhibited to visiting officials. We had several inspections by the various Congressional Investigation parties which came to Santo Domingo, and were looked over once by the Secretary of the Navy himself, who personally congratulated us on the appearance and efficiency of these black soldiers in their first two months of training.

The last three weeks of each training period were devoted to target practice. We had a four target range of distances up to three hundred yards, and every bit of work on this range was done by ourselves. Winfield dug the butts out of the ever-shifting sandy soil near the beach, and reinforced them with mahogany logs and cement, graded the fairway, and erected the firing points. We found it impossible to secure enough money for the purchase of the standard target frames and butts equipment, so Winfield got busy with his drawing board and planned a system which we could build out of iron pipe. We threaded the pipe with our own hands, being afraid to trust the work to anyone else because of the current cost of iron pipe at that time, and when the frames were erected and sunk into concrete flooring, nothing short of an earthquake could have dislodged them.

The men liked target practice better than any other branch of the training, and went after it with great enthusiasm. Headquarters had recently issued a General Order prescribing the course to be fired, and had authorized the issue of marksmanship medals to those who qualified as "Tiradores," or marksmen. Extra pay of \$1.00 per month went with this qualification, but the men didn't value the extra pay as much as they did the new shiny silver medal, which they could pin on their breasts and exhibit before the dark eyes of the señoritas who paraded their dusky charms in the lighted plazas in the evening.

We had the old Krag-Jorgensen rifles and ammunition, some of which were manufactured as far back as Spanish-American War days. The rifles were as a whole in a very poor condition. They had been in the possession of the Policia for years, and the natives had not been

noted for taking good care of their equipment before the advent of American training principles. Many repairs were necessary before we could get together enough rifles suitable for range work. In spite of the many handicaps, however, the men did very well. Out of the first 200 men to fire the course, we qualified twenty-four "Tiradores." To qualify, a man had to make 135 points out of a possible 200. The course was ten shots at 200 and 300 yards, rapid and slow fire at each range; the position at 200 yards slow fire was standing, and sitting and kneeling at 300 yards. In the rapid fire course, the positions were sitting at 200 yards, and prone at 300 yards.

We did not fire the longer ranges first, because the size of our range did not permit of it, and second because it was not probable that in actual warfare soldiers would ever get a clear field of fire of more than three hundred yards, due to the character of the country, which is in most portions thickly wooded.

Enthusiasm ran high on the range. When the white marker was put up, signifying a bull's-eye, the lucky firer would turn around in his firing position and cheer lustily, in which he would be joined by the rest of the detail. When it came to record practice, and the men were after their qualifications, it was a man's job to keep them in any semblance of order. I found that though these natives took longer than the average American soldier to absorb the principles of firing and to accustom themselves to the various positions they eventually made excellent shots, and I discovered one or two of them, who with sufficient training I would have been willing to put up against any of the Marine Corps experts. This was the first training any of them had had in rifle shooting. They used to shoot from the hip, and never took more than a general aim at their objective, with the natural result that casualties never ran very high in the skirmishes the Marines had with them. I believe that in the whole Marine Expeditionary Force which occupied the Island in 1916 and met severe opposition in some sectors, there were only three casualties, or some absurdly small number like that.

The results of this range practice soon became apparent. Soon after the first companies had completed their course at Haina, a detachment of native Constabulary under an American officer surrounded the stronghold of a bandit chief in Azua province and killed some forty of his followers, besides capturing a large amount of arms and ammunition. This was unusual, for in contacts had with bandits previous to this time, there were rarely any casualties. The incident

just cited made a big impression on the natives, and also upon those who were watching the development of the Policia Nacional, and it was particularly gratifying to us, as we identified the detail as composed of men from the 7th Company, which had but recently passed through our Training Centre.

Since the writer has left Santo Domingo, an appropriation has been secured for the purchase of Springfield rifles, of the United States Army model, and this will greatly tend to increase the efficiency of the Policia, due to the greater accuracy of the Springfield rifle, and the fact that it is more solidly and compactly built, and capable of being more quickly loaded.

In the latter part of 1922, a class of about sixty native cadets was matriculated at Haina. These men were picked by an American Examining Board from the older and more experienced non-commissioned officers of the Policia, and from civil life. Of the original number, about thirty were graduated as Second Lieutenants, after going through basically the same course as we gave the first Dominican officers. This was a great step towards officering the Policia with native officers, in which, as has been seen, the force was woefully weak. Previous to this time, each post had been in command of an American officer on detached duty with the Policia, and sometimes he had a native officer as assistant, and sometimes not. A force of 1200 enlisted called for about sixty officers, not including the Headquarters staff, and up to this time there had been only twenty, scattered about the country in various small outposts.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATIVE SOLDIER

An outsider has no conception of the handicap under which an instructor works with these natives. It must be remembered, first of all, that when the American forces occupied Santo Domingo, according to the records of the Department of Education ninety per cent. of the natives were illiterate, which means that only ten per cent. of the population was able to read and write. This proportion was reduced to forty per cent. of illiteracy during the American Occupation, but it gives an idea of the class of enlisted men with which we had to work. Most of the enlisted force were recruited at first from the laboring, or "peon" classes, and very few from the "gente decente." These peons spend their whole lives in some little hut built of thatched palm fronds on the slopes of the hills where they have

perhaps made a small clearing, and are satisfied to live from day to day on the small earnings from their sickly crops of fruits or vegetables.

In short, our first enlisted men were the most ignorant and crude specimens possible, as far as intelligence was concerned. Physically, they were not so bad. The native has naturally a huge frame, and the men we received from the laboring classes, were for the greater part excellent physical specimens, and from them we trained some good athletes.

Our greatest troubles arose at first from the natural aversion for soap and razor. Lack of water in the inland portions of the country had made the natives naturally sparing in the use of it for bathing purposes, and, indeed, many of them believed that it made them more susceptible to disease. Strangely enough, this did seem to be the case, when we included a dip in the sea as a part of the morning physical drill. Our sick list grew disproportionately during this practice, and our medico explained to us that the men blamed it on the morning bath. However, they soon became inured to the hardship of the daily dip, and the sea and our showers soon became very popular.

Aversion to the razor was effectively cured by providing each man with a safety razor at his own expense, and making it a "bread and water" offense to appear at morning inspection unshaven. Soon after we had become settled in our first camp, our Post Exchange Officer laid in a supply of American toilet waters and scented soaps and face powders. It was amusing to see how these natives, who are dandies at heart, went after these commodities, and at our first inspection after pay-day, every bunk included among its equipment laid out for our inspection a bottle of Eau de Passion, or some other equally pungent concoction.

At first we had to resort to force to get a man to visit the Sick Bay when he fell ill. The natives were great believers in the healing capacity of the various herbs which grew about the countryside. A man with a fever would gather a mass of what looked like leaves, boil them to a sticky paste, and plaster it on his forehead. Then he would wrap himself from head to foot in blankets, and retire to his bunk, without even leaving an air-hole, and stay there till he felt better. There is no doubt that these herbs did possess certain peculiar curative qualities. My native cook cut her finger badly one day on the jagged edge of a bread-knife, and getting some of these herbs, plastered her

finger with them, without saying a word to me about it. The next morning the cut had closed and the flesh all about the wound had formed into a hard horny mass, much like a wart, and Philomena came to me and triumphantly displayed the cured member which she claimed proved the efficacy of native curative methods.

Although we received what seemed to be the scum of the Island in our first draft of recruits, later, as the popularity of the Policia increased and it became more of an honorable profession instead of a harbor of last resort for natives who were too lazy to earn their living in any other way, the quality of our recruits became better and better. There was a chance for a commission in some cases for suitable enlisted men, as the Government was still looking for non-commissioned officers with the proper qualifications to advance to commissioned grade, and this doubtless was one of the factors which influenced the enlistment of recruits from the better classes of townspeople, which was the case during the latter periods of training. As a general rule, the degree of intelligence increased with the decrease of the ebony tinge. The blacker recruits were generally simple-minded giants who did what they were told simply from the habits of discipline, and lacked sense of responsibility and initiative. Those who were of clearer complexion usually were more intelligent, and could be trusted with responsible jobs. This rule seemed to work out quite neatly, and practically all of our best non-commissioned officers were either of Porto Rican descent, or had a larger proportion of Spanish than of negro blood in their veins.

It was a terrible grind at first to get the men to keep themselves clean and neat. With the advancement of training, however, the men began to realize that it was to their advantage to be in proper "police" for inspections, and that their appearance was improved by a hair-cut and neatly pressed uniform. We used to have weekly competitions, offering a cash prize to the neatest man in the outfit, and this did wonders towards improving matters. Every native has somewhere in his make-up a strong sense of pride, and this soon became evident in the general improvement of the condition of the command as respects cleanliness and neatness.

After the first few weeks of training, the native is, as a rule, proud of his soldierly appearance, and is very careful of his clothing and equipment. He is inclined to be snappy, and of a soldierly bearing

provided that he has received the right sort of instruction to begin with and an old non-commissioned officer can throw the snappiest salute I have ever seen anywhere. He is not afraid of overdoing it, and one can almost hear his bones crack as he snaps up his arm to the salute.

The enlisted personnel of the Policia are as a whole courageous and dependable. There have been very few instances, if any, of cowardice under fire, and the American officers I have known who have participated in engagements with native soldiers speak very highly of them in this respect. The general lack of a sense of responsibility and initiative, and what might be called a "moral sense" is what prevents the Republic from possessing one of the finest bodies of troops in the world, and has also been the factor which has prevented the Dominicans from ever being able to successfully govern themselves.

The Dominican soldiers are fierce fighters, inclined to be merciless, and will follow their leaders anywhere, but cannot be trusted with responsible duties or independent posts. They will act with great credit when directly under the supervision of a superior officer, but, when "out on their own" are inclined to slack, and loaf away the time.

The natives are creatures of habit. We realized this early in the training, and adopted the policy of frequent repetition in order to drill facts into their hard skulls. Systematic repetition was the only method which was successful with them. After a certain amount of time, they absorbed the knowledge that certain things were true, but very seldom knew why. Once a fact was successfully driven in, however, it remained, and no amount of contradiction could ever dislodge it.

It is interesting to watch the dawn of intelligence in some of the men, particularly those who were the most stupid at first. In a case of this kind, the first week of instruction would roll off the recruit like water from a duck's back. To all our efforts and patient work there would be not the least answering gleam of intelligence. The recruit's face would remain as blank as a brick wall. An order, or a question provoked not the least sign that here was something he understood. Suddenly, one morning, an order is given, and there comes in those eyes the answering flash which changes the whole expression of that black face, and from that point on the development is rapid. It is as though the brain were calloused, and continual rubbing were necessary

to reach the layer of gray matter beneath; once reached, the trouble is over.

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I left the Dominican Republic in May, 1923, after two years as instructor and drillmaster at the Policia Training Centre at Haina, having been active in the very first attempt to get the training schedule under way, and it seems remarkable that in these two years the Policia Nacional Dominicana has progressed from a stagnant body of underfed, badly equipped, inefficient black soldiers to the state where it is today. Now the Dominican Government has an efficient force of twelve hundred Constabulary, well-officered, well-armed, well-trained and loyal. The Transportation department has, besides the necessary touring cars, trucks and motorcycles, a fleet of sixteen speedy Reo trucks, prepared to transport four hundred men in an emergency, which move can be made to the furthest point from either of the two bases in four hours' time at the maximum.

WHERE MARINE EQUIPMENT COMES FROM

A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE
DEPOT OF SUPPLIES, U. S. MARINE CORPS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BY HOWARD P. ATHERTON

FOR the purpose of disseminating a general knowledge of the activities of the Depot of Supplies, the **MARINE CORPS GAZETTE** some time ago communicated with Colonel Cyrus S. Radford, U. S. Marine Corps, Officer in Charge of the Depot, and requested him to supply such information as he might deem advantageous. The following article was prepared as a result of this request and has been submitted by Mr. Atherton to the **GAZETTE** with Colonel Radford's approval.

People are known by the company they keep, and by the same token buildings are often known by the use to which they are put.

There is something about a library, warehouse, school or legislative building that immediately proclaims its character to the observer. The factory, theatre, church and dwelling need no glaring signs to denote the purpose for which they were built. Common intelligence directs persons of even limited mentalities to note the utility of such buildings at a glance.

Now and then, however, we view from the railroad train or automobile, or even from the sidewalk, if we have not yet wholly succumbed to the lure of artificial locomotion, a building that stands alone and distinctive among its contemporaries. Such is the Marine Corps Depot of Supplies at Philadelphia, Pa., the only manufacturing, and the main distributing depot of the Quartermaster's Department, U. S. Marine Corps.

The Depot is in a class by itself. The main building fronts on Broad Street, its red brick facade presenting a non-committal view to the uninitiated. It is a stolid, dignified-looking building, one of the most imposing on the street, and many there are who pass it day by day without the slightest knowledge of the purpose for which it is used. The original brick building is reinforced in the rear by another, built of cement, the whole being devoted to the work of the Depot. Elsewhere auxiliary warehouses are used.

Oddly enough, persons born and reared in Philadelphia, are fre-

quently at a loss to direct an inquirer to the Depot of Supplies, and many of them have no knowledge that such an enterprise exists in their home city.

But the manufacture of such widely different products as recruiting banners and mess pans, not to mention hundreds of equally dissimilar articles under virtually the same roof, makes the Marine Corps Depot of Supplies one of the most novel enterprises of its kind in existence.

A decade ago the Depot was a small but growing concern. The manner in which it has expanded during the last ten years seems to have more than kept pace with the growth of the Corps itself. Today the Depot is more than a commercial enterprise—it is a big manufacturing and wholesale plant under the management of U. S. Marines.

Without being misleading the sign over the door at 1100 South Broad Street, informing visitors that the building belongs to the Quartermaster's Department, Marine Corps, might be changed to "Marine Corps Manufacturing Company, Limited." That, at least, would give a bare hint at the really remarkable work that goes on inside.

Probably no concern on the face of the globe produces such a wide variety of goods as the Depot. Everything that the Marine Corps uses is made on the premises. They make hat ornaments and field stoves, mosquito nets and trunk lockers, buckets and condiment cans and so on down the endless list of things a Marine needs in the barracks or field. Frequently a certain line of goods of metal, cloth, wood, or kindred materials is made in a certain department and passes to another department before the product is finished.

During the war the Depot hummed with the activity of work turned out under high pressure. There has been an appreciable reduction in the work and also the number of employees, but the Depot was not left, as so many war-time projects were left, flat and lifeless after the big struggle was over. Under the direction of Colonel C. S. Radford, the Officer in Charge, there has been a gradual and sensible retrenchment in all departments until each is now carrying on and producing the maximum results without danger of over-production.

During the war the Depot personnel included fourteen officers, 100 enlisted men, 420 civilian men and 593 women employees, with

the Marines, as a rule, serving in executive or clerical capacities. Only 600, or about half the former number, are now employed.

The remarkable thing about the Depot is, as I have already stated, its facility in manufacturing widely dissimilar articles. Ordinarily, in order to secure perfect production, highly trained specialists are required to devote their entire time and attention to superintending one operation. At the Depot, one man frequently directs the manufacture of scores of different products.

All materials purchased are subjected to a minute analysis by the Inspection Department to determine their exact quality and value, and compared carefully with specifications and standard samples. The testing room literally bristles with scientific instruments, weighing and testing machines, and articles of all kinds from bolo knives to pack saddles filed as standard samples.

The Marine Corps shoe inspecting system is believed to be the best in existence. Under the management of Mr. J. F. Finnigan, chief shoe inspector, expert shoe and leather inspectors with a general all round experience of several years' training on tannage, quality and value of upper and sole leathers, and with a practical knowledge and experience in modern construction and operation of shoe manufacture, are employed and assigned to duty in the shoe contractor's factories to inspect and supervise the manufacture of shoes in accordance with Marine Corps specifications and standard. An examination and comparison of Marine shoes with those of other branches of the service will elicit the information that they are a better shoe for the use intended and are purchased cheaper, although larger quantities are bought by other departments.

In the Machine and Motor Shop, which is in charge of Mr. W. E. Riley, they are equipped to turn out field ovens, knives, forks, spoons, mess pans, canteens, buckets, fittings for tent poles, snow shovels, and scores of other articles. If need be they can repair rifles, typewriters, adding machines, electric fans and automobile parts. During the last fiscal year this department manufactured and repaired 214,626 articles at a total cost of \$147,191.07, saving the Government thousands of dollars.

The Equipment Department, in charge of Mr. W. R. Hartley, manufactures all kinds of leather equipment, canvas aprons, belts, mail bags, carriers of all kinds, and so on down through the whole alphabetical list to saddles, tents and tarpaulins. There is an astonish-

ing number of odds and ends of equipment in the service that only a scrutiny of a long list of such articles reveals.

During the last fiscal year the Clothing Factory, in charge of Mr. W. J. Hutton, manufactured a total of 740,860 articles at a total cost of \$1,288,185.30. Nearly every shred of clothing that an officer or enlisted man puts on his back is manufactured at the Depot, with the exception of socks, shoes and certain lines of rubber or knitted goods which are purchased under contract. In addition, flags, pennants, pillowcases, sheets and other articles are made.

In 1908, the Depot started to manufacture a few packing cases. Today the Woodworking Department, in charge of Mr. R. C. Rasmussen, is prepared to make field desks, trunk lockers, mess tables benches, poles for tents, wooden parts for Gold Medal cots, hundreds of packing cases and kindred supplies. Over a hundred and twenty distinctive objects can be either made or repaired in this department, and all of them at an appreciable saving to the Government.

It must be remembered that all of these articles are not being manufactured or repaired at the same time. As in other commercial enterprises, the supply is governed by the demand. When the stock of a certain commodity is depleted, work to replenish the supply is begun, and the shelves are not covered with goods that ordinarily would not be used up by the Marine Corps in a reasonable length of time. The object of each department is to maintain only the nucleus of a big productive force, so that the Depot will be prepared to meet any sudden or unusual demand for goods, as was the case during the late war.

In short, the Depot manufactures a large percentage of almost every article the Marine Corps uses. The net savings on goods manufactured at the Depot is from twenty-five to thirty per cent. During the war period field stoves were turned out at less than half the contractor's prices, and they were far more serviceable. One \$1,200 machine, installed during the war, paid for itself within a short time by turning out hooks for overcoats and field equipment at less than one-third the cost of purchasing them on the "outside." All employees in the production departments are on a per diem pay on a piece work basis, and all articles manufactured must be produced at a production cost of the article commercially, or less.

Visitors to the Depot are immediately struck with the orderly precision with which each department is conducted. From the regular click-click of the sewing machines and the busy needles plied by the female employees, to the rat-a-tat-tat of the hammers wielded by

brawny mechanics in the machine shop, system and order prevail. Each department is more or less secluded and there is little fraternizing among employees, except when they meet together in the Depot Cafeteria for lunch.

The Cafeteria is a splendid innovation, introduced into the Depot under the war-time pressure for time, and it is giving excellent service. It occupies the top floor of one of the buildings, and serves an excellent variety of food at very low prices. Half an hour is allowed each employee for lunch, and there is a systematic coming and going during the noon hour. On one corner of this floor a hospital has been fitted up, with medical supplies, beds for patients, and a trained nurse in attendance. A Naval Doctor makes regular calls, and can be reached in case of emergency.

To give still more variety to the operations of the Depot, space has been given on one floor to a branch of the Pay Department, the Eastern Recruiting Division Headquarters, and the Marine Corps Recruiting Bureau. The Bureau presses print the recruiting literature for the Corps, while in an adjoining room can be heard the whirr of sewing machines. It seems that little more could be added to give the main building a more cosmopolitan character.

The story of the origin and growth of the Depot reads like the romance of Big Business.

Although the Marine Corps was authorized by the Continental Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia, on November 10, 1775, the earliest records obtainable show that the Depot was established in that city in 1857, when the Marine Corps was comprised of about 2,000 men. The Depot's force at that time included one officer, with the rank of captain, one sergeant, who served as clerk, and four or five privates. The plant was established in a four-story dwelling at 226 South Fourth Street, after the interior had been remodelled to accommodate the small supply of materials, used for the manufacture of uniforms, and other articles purchased for supplying the Corps.

Uniforms were manufactured under contract by commercial houses, cloth, trimmings and materials being supplied by the Depot. This practice was followed until 1879, when the materials for uniforms were cut in the Depot and given out to operators to be made up in their homes and brought in weekly.

Since then the Depot has developed like the proverbial oak that springs from the acorn. The original building on the present site was erected in 1904. Seven additions have since been added. Some of

these buildings were crumbling structures which were torn down, the materials salvaged, and with the addition of fresh materials erected into strong, serviceable structures at a great saving to the Government.

The ground owned by the Marine Corps at Broad and Washington Avenue, where the main buildings stand, covers an area of over two acres, the floor space approximating 307,000 square feet. Surplus supplies are kept in four one-story warehouses, located on the Delaware River front at the foot of Snyder Avenue, which were acquired from the Army in the Spring of 1922, and have approximately 266,000 square feet of floor space. Facilities for handling incoming and outgoing freight at both locations are excellent, there being adequate railroad sidings where cars can be loaded and unloaded rapidly. The Snyder Avenue warehouses have the additional advantage of being nearby the Delaware River piers, where vessels can be loaded and unloaded, and the rapid handling of freight is accomplished by the aid of Ford tractors, electric trucks and larger motor vehicles. At these warehouses, camp and garrison equipment and nearly every other article used by the Marine Corps ashore and afloat, are stored.

From the Spanish-American War in 1898, to the conclusion of the World War, the Marine Corps was engaged in either a campaign or expedition each year, except during the year 1913. Throughout this period all regiments, battalions, detachments and other units were either partially or wholly equipped by the Depot, necessitating in many instances the working of the force, especially the officers and enlisted personnel, night and day, in order to avoid delay in furnishing the troops with supplies.

During the World War period, the Depot outfitted and equipped thirty-six expeditionary units for service in France and the West Indies, involving the handling of over 35,000,000 pounds of various kinds of supplies. Prior to the war the Depot's departments were so well organized that it was only necessary to expand each division and increase the number of employees and machines in order to keep up with the suddenly increased demand.

A word about the Depot's Chief: Colonel Radford is thoroughly satisfied to trust the minor operations of the Depot to executives who understand the technical work of the various departments. But like all successful Chief Executives he has his finger on the pulse of the Depot, and keeps fully informed as to how each department is functioning. One of the chief reasons for Colonel Radford's suc-

cessful management of the Depot is his close observation of the market. He scrupulously studies every stock report to note the rise or fall of commodities required by the Marine Corps. When the price is favorable, purchases are made. This knowledge of the markets has enabled Colonel Radford to keep costs down to a minimum.

If there is any all-round motto of the Depot of Supplies, it is, "Do it now!" Immediately requisitions are received they are rushed out in the quickest possible time. There are no "pending" hooks or baskets and every effort is made to make prompt delivery. As to efficiency, it might be said that other departments of the Government have sent envoys to the Depot several times, with a view to remodelling their own departments after the Depot's business system.

Small wonder if the chance pilgrim who enters the Depot for the first time, is amazed when he learns the operations conducted in this remarkable plant. Such visitors, when leaving, usually fall back on one of the well known and justly famous slogans of the Corps, which I may be forgiven for repeating: "Marines can do anything."

MARINE MANOEUVRES WITH THE FLEET

THE Marine Corps East Coast Expeditionary Force will receive its first trial under the conditions for which it was designed, in the joint Army-Navy-Marine Corps manoeuvres planned for the Panama Canal Zone and the Vieques Sound area, during the months of January and February. The entire Expeditionary Force will take part in the manoeuvre under the command of Brigadier General Eli K. Cole, U. S. Marine Corps. The force will be divided for tactical purposes into an infantry force consisting of the Fifth Marine Regiment under command of Colonel H. C. Snyder, U. S. Marine Corps, and a second force, made up of the Tenth Artillery Regiment together with specialist detachments, under the command of Colonel Dion Williams, U. S. Marine Corps.

The tactical exercises planned comprise two problems, the first to test the defenses of the Panama Canal Zone against an enemy fleet accompanied by an appropriate Marine Expeditionary Force, and the second to test plans for attack and defense of a temporary fleet base established on Culebra Island, off the coast of Porto Rico. The problems in which the Marine Force will participate are a part of a program of tactical exercises by the Navy for the coming winter season.

The first problem is designed as a test of the ability of the forces defending the Panama Canal to keep that waterway in operation under war conditions. It is assumed that the Blue Government (the United States) has entered war with part of its fleet in the Pacific and part in the Atlantic Ocean. The hostile Black Government has established a naval base in the Caribbean and is seeking with its fleet and its Marine Expeditionary Force to block the Canal and prevent the exit of the Pacific Fleet of the Blue Forces and their juncture with the Blue Forces in the Atlantic. The Black Forces will be represented by the Scouting or Atlantic Fleet of the Navy commanded by Vice Admiral Newton A. McCully. The Black fleet will be accompanied by the Fifth Marine Regiment under the command of Colonel Snyder, and will probably affect a landing in the Canal Zone and attempt to disable the Canal by raiding operations. The Marine detachments will leave Quantico early in the year, probably on January 2nd. The Fifth Regiment, on board the *Chaumont*, will proceed

to the Canal Zone where they will arrive for the problem about the middle of the month. This problem will be completed about January 25th, when the second problem will begin.

Under the conditions of the second problem the entire United States Fleet will be united and will operate under the command of Admiral R. E. Coontz, U. S. Navy, against a suppositious enemy fleet which has established a base in the Vieques Sound region. This base will be defended by the detachments of Marine artillery and specialist troops under command of Colonel Williams, who will proceed direct to Culebra Island and will begin on the base and its fortifications immediately upon leaving Quantico on January 2nd. They will proceed on the U. S. *Chaumont* and U. S. *Sirius*, which will transport the Marine artillery and entire train equipment. The United States Fleet will leave the Canal Zone shortly before February first, and will steam to Vieques Sound, where the Marine infantry will be landed on Culebra Island and will endeavor to capture and destroy the base there, defended by the Marine artillery force. These exercises will occupy about two weeks in February and the Expeditionary Force will break camp for its return about February 15th, the last detachment being scheduled to reach the United States about March 1st.

The exercises will form by far the most extensive and significant practice manœuvres dealing with the conditions of actual naval war ever attempted by the Marine Corps Expeditionary Force. Experience of the greatest value will be gained by officers and organizations which participate, and it is expected that information of the most valuable sort will be secured, particularly in the matter of loading, transporting and landing stores and equipment, as well as the heavy 155-mm. guns which will be taken.

THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

BY MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A. LEJEUNE, COMMANDANT U.S.M.C.
DELIVERED AT THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND,
DECEMBER 14, 1923.

OME months ago the President of the Naval War College was good enough to ask me to deliver a lecture to the officers on duty at the College. I, of course, accepted, but did so in a state of trepidation because somehow the word "lecture" has always had a terrifying effect on my mind. When I was a youth it was connected in my thoughts with conversations with those in higher authority, concerning certain lapses or derelictions of duty on my part in which the higher authority did the talking and I did the listening; or else it is connected in my mind with certain dreary occasions when I sat in the pit, as it were, with a number of other victims while some long-winded instructor, having the platform to himself, discoursed at great length on some subject in which I was not in the least interested.

For these reasons, and also because it would be a misnomer to so label this effort, I now disclaim most emphatically any desire or intention on my part to deliver a lecture, but ask you instead to regard what I am going to say as a talk. Admiral Williams, in his invitation, did not limit me as to my choice of a subject. However, inasmuch as I believe in the truth of the old adage that a cobbler should stick to his last, I will endeavor to confine my talk to the general subject of the U. S. Marine Corps, and more specifically to its origin, its development, its organization, its peacetime duties and its wartime mission. This subject covers a very wide field and it would be easy to be prolix, but I will be as brief as is consistent with the occasion, always bearing in mind, however, that I have come a long distance and that the fitness of things requires that I should talk long enough to avoid the criticism that I am engaged in a junket at Government expense.

ORIGIN OF THE U. S. MARINE CORPS

The U. S. Marine Corps easily traces its descent from the organization now known as the Royal Marines of Great Britain. The Royal Marines came into existence as the result of natural evolu-

tion. Very recently, Lieutenant Colonel Fields of the Royal Marines published an exceedingly interesting history of that famous Corps, entitled "Britain's Sea Soldiers," and I cannot do better than to allow him to tell his own story in his own words by utilizing extracts from his book.

In the first chapter he discusses at considerable length the ancient custom of ships of war carrying detachments of soldiers, sometimes as a small part of their regular complements, and at other times, as the major portion of the number of men embarked. This custom, coming down from the Greeks and Romans, was continued in the British Fleet, but not until the reign of Charles II was there any military organization definitely placed under the authority of the British Admiralty. This was accomplished by an Order in Council, which directed the recruitment and organization of "The Admiral's Regiment." Colonel Fields states that it was the regiment of the "Duke of York and Albany, the Lord High Admiral of England," and in a foot-note we read "The regiment of the Duke of York is called the 'Regiment of Marines,' and in case of war is the first to embark on board the fleet, over which the Lord High Admiral presides. This is considered the first office in the Kingdom, and is therefore held by the Duke of York."—From "Travels of Count Cosmo of Tuscany."

Colonel Fields further states, "It had at this time (1684) been just twenty years in existence, having been raised in 1664 in compliance with an Order in Council which directed 'That twelve hundred land Souldjers be forthwith raysed, to be in readinesse, to be distributed into his Majesty's Fleets prepared for Sea Service which said twelve hundred Men are to be putt into One Regiment Under One Colonell, One Lieutenant Colonell and One Serjeant Major and to be divided into six Companies, each Company to consist of Two Hundred Souldjers; And to have one Captain, one Lieutenant, One Ensigne, One Drume, Fowre Serjeants, and Fowre Corporalls, and all the Souldjers aforesaid to be armed with good firelocks, all which Armes, Drumes and Colours are forthwith to be prepared and furnished out of his Majesty's stoares; the care of all of which is recommended to the Duke of Albemarle his Grace, Lord Generall of his Majesty's Forces.' The Colours borne by this regiment were: For the Colonel, plain yellow; the Lieutenant-Colonel, a red St. George's Cross with white edging upon a yellow ground, and the 'Major's' and the Company's Colour, 'which bore a cross similar to that upon the Lieutenant

Colonel's, but with the yellow sun-rays issuing from the angles upon a white ground.' "

" Although termed ' Land Souldjers ' in the Order in Council, it is evident that they were specially raised for service afloat, for in the preamble to the Order it is stated that it was issued ' upon a Report from the Lords the Committee for the Affayres of his Majesty's Navy Royall and Admiralty.' "

" Service afloat was evidently not popular, as in 1673 we find the Duke of Buckingham, as Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire, attributing the slowness with which he is able to enlist men for the King's service to ' the maliciously disseminated Rumors of the ill-usage of Soldiers afloat.' "

" The Admiral's regiment bore its part in all the fierce naval engagements with the Dutch that took place between 1664 and 1680, battles in which we more nearly met our match at sea than has ever been the case before or since."

" In March, 1672, sometime prior to the Sole Bay Fight, the Duke of Monmouth had gone over to France in command of a regiment formed from detachments for the Guards and other battalions to serve against the Dutch with the French Army. In November, another composite regiment under Sir Bevil Skelton, a Captain in the 1st Foot Guards—now the Grenadiers—was formed and crossed over to Calais at the end of December. One of the companies of this battalion was drawn from the Admiral's Regiment and its Captain was John Churchill—afterwards the famous Duke of Marlborough—who, as we have seen, had just been promoted from Ensign in the King's Company of the 1st Guards, to command a company in this Regiment."

" Early in the year (1678) it had been decided to send over an expedition to Holland to assist the Dutch against the French. In fact, the review at Hounslow was a direct consequence of this decision, since the Army had been raised from a very low figure to something like 20,000 men, half of whom were encamped at that place. The Maritime Regiment was raised to two battalions, in addition, presumably, to the detachments serving afloat. One of these was known as ' The Duke of York's ' and the other as ' Sir Charles Lyttleton's. ' By the end of February, nine companies of these marines had arrived at Ostend, and seven more were under orders to follow them * * *.

" Both Marine battalions went to Flanders, where they had been augmented by the arrival of a Grenadier Company apiece. The Duke

of York's was at Louvain, Sir Charles Lyttleton's very possibly with him at Bruges * * * .

"But the Marines had proved themselves too valuable not to be replaced, and in 1690 orders were issued for the formation of two large regiments of fifteen companies each—200 men to a company." The Marine Regiments took part in all the campaigns of England, both on land and on sea, during the last quarter of the 17th century.

"In September, 1692, detachments were drawn out of the two Marine regiments to go with Colonel Faringdon's regiment to Jamaica, and in November, Colonels Lillington and Norcutts were also sent to that island with 100 Marines. At the same time 500 were sent to Admiral Russell, presumably for duty afloat.

"On February 14, 1694, the following order was issued to the officers commanding the Marine Regiments: 'You are also Reqd. to cause your men to be frequently exercised at the Great Guns for the better Instructing them in that matter.'

"After a service of eight years the two Marine Regiments, then commanded by the Marquis of Caermarthen and Sir Clowdisley Shovell, underwent a considerable transformation. By an order of July 18, 1698, the two, which must have been considerably reduced in numbers, were combined into one and placed under the command of Colonel Thomas Brudenall, and at the same time the three infantry regiments commanded by Colonels Edward Dutton Colt, William Seymour, and Henry Mordaunt, were turned into Marine regiments and placed upon the naval establishment. These four regiments had each of them a strength of 754 officers, N.C.O.'s and men, so that the the whole four of them together were barely stronger than one of the original regiments whose place they took."

I will not attempt within the space of this talk further to follow the development of the Royal Marines, but will turn to our own Marine Corps.

It was but natural that the American Colonies, in organizing their armed forces for the Revolutionary War, should follow the example of the mother country. On November 10, 1775, Continental Congress provided by resolution for the organization of two battalions of Marines, to consist of men with a knowledge of the sea. These Marines took part in many engagements, both ashore and afloat, during the War of the Revolution, notably in the Battle of Princeton, and also on board the American naval vessels which operated off the British coast under the command of Commodore John Paul Jones.

Upon the making of peace with Great Britain, the Continental Marines, like the Continental Army and Navy, ceased to exist until after the adoption of the Constitution and the installation of the Federal Government; but it was not until July 11, 1798, that the Marine Corps, by Act of Congress, was brought into being in substantially the same form that it exists today. Since that date its administration, its organization and its duties have developed along logical lines.

The first and subsequent organic acts provided for a Commandant and a staff, and the Act of April 22, 1800, authorized the appointment of a "Lieutenant Colonel Commandant to command the Corps of Marines."

A curious situation arose in the early days of the history of the Corps due to the fact that the Act of July 11, 1798 provided that the Marines were to be a part of the Army or Navy "according to the nature of the service in which they shall be employed." The immediate result of this phraseology was the decision that Marines afloat were subject to the Articles for the Government of the Navy, and when on shore to the Articles of War. In consequence of this anomalous situation, general courts-martial convened on shore for the trial of Marines were Army courts and were composed of officers of the Army and of the Marine Corps.

The Act of April 10, 1806, Article 68, provided that:

"When ever it may be found convenient and necessary to the public service, the officers of the Marines shall be associated with the officers of the land forces, for the purpose of holding courts-martial and trying offenders belonging to either; and in such cases the orders of the senior officer of either corps, who may be present and duly authorized, shall be received and obeyed."

Much friction, too was caused between the Army, Navy and Marine Corps by the dual nature of the disciplinary jurisdiction. Finally, the whole question of the status of the Marine Corps was clarified by the Act of June 30, 1834, which provided that the Marine Corps was at all times subject to Navy laws and regulations except when all or part of it were detached for service with the Army, when that part would be governed by the Articles of War. Since 1834, there has been a gradual tightening of the ties which bind the Navy and Marine Corps together, until now it has definitely become a part of the Naval Service.

As the Corps has grown in size and its duties have become more numerous and more varied, its organization in the field and at Head-

quarters has expanded. Until recent years there was no provision of law or regulations governing the field of service of Marines, the sole mention in the Articles for the Government of the Navy of the service of Marines on shore being the inclusion of the Commandant of a Marine Barracks in the list of the officers authorized to order summary-courts-martial. Similarly, the Navy Regulations made no provision for the service of Marines under any conditions except on board ship or at a Marine Barracks, although the statute law prescribed that Marines were eligible for duty in the forts and garrisons of the United States, or for such other duty on shore as the President may direct.

Little by little this condition has been corrected, until now the laws recognize the varied nature of the duty Marines may be called on to perform, and have placed regimental and separate battalion commanders on the same footing as to disciplinary authority as are the commanding officers of naval vessels and brigade and higher commanders in the same status as are flag officers of the Navy in command afloat or ashore. During this period of development, the Navy Regulations pertaining to the Marine Corps have been expanded, and the Marine Corps manuals approved by the Secretary of the Navy and therefore having the same effect as the Navy Regulations, have been drawn up and issued to all officers.

The Marine Corps functions administratively under the command of the Commandant of the Corps. He is solely responsible to the Secretary of the Navy for the discipline and efficiency of the Corps. He has under his immediate jurisdiction and control the heads of the three staff departments, who correspond closely to the bureau chiefs of the Army and Navy. There is also a general officer who is the assistant to the Commandant, who aids him in coördinating all the business transacted at Headquarters, including the staff departments, the Division of Operations and Training, and the sections of Personnel, Recruiting and Education.

I believe that one of the principal reasons for the efficiency of the Marine Corps is the fact that it has, in the Commandant, a single head, and that he is charged with the duty not only of building up its efficiency and of conducting its affairs economically, but also is regarded by all the officers and men as their natural protector and friend. As students of history, all of us must be convinced that unity of administrative control is as essential to success as is unity of command, that both are in accord with the principle of simplicity; and that, con-

versely, division of authority spells confusion, demoralization and disaster:

Before going to another branch of the subject, I deem it pertinent to add that there is the closest kind of liaison and coöperation between Marine Corps Headquarters and the Bureaus and Offices of the Navy Department. There is no friction and the machine functions in high gear without any serious jolts or jars. We are working, so far as our abilities permit, for the welfare and upbuilding of the entire naval establishment and not in the interest of any clique or faction.

PEACE TIME DUTIES AND WAR TIME MISSION

I have coupled these two together because in peace we must so construct our machine that it will function economically and efficiently when it is required to carry out the purpose for which it was created.

The Marine Corps mission may be succinctly stated as follows, *viz.*: To support the United States Fleet and to aid the Navy in carrying out that part of the policy of the government which has been or may be assigned to it. In carrying out this mission, the Marine Corps is called on for the performance of many and varied duties. These may be classified as follows:

- (a) Detachments to guard and protect navy yards, naval bases, and other naval utilities, at home and abroad.
- (b) Guards for American legations in foreign countries, such guards being under the jurisdiction of the flag officer in command of the naval forces on the station.
- (c) Landing forces to protect American lives, rights and interests.
- (d) Forces of occupation to restore order and to maintain peace and tranquility in disturbed countries, as, for instance, Haiti and Santo Domingo.
- (e) Detachments for Marine Corps administrative purposes, such as the recruiting service, training stations, supply depots, etc.
- (f) Aviation.
- (g) Marine Detachments for service on board the vessels of the Fleet.
- (h) Expeditionary forces for service with the Fleet in war.

It is not necessary to discuss all of these duties, and I will confine myself chiefly to the major war mission of the Marine Corps, which is to support the Fleet by supplying it with a highly trained, fully equipped expeditionary force for the minor shore operations which

are necessary for the effective prosecution by the fleet of its major mission, which is to gain control of the sea and thereby open the sea lanes for the movement of the army overseas. These minor shore operations are numerous and varied in their nature. Probably the most important are the seizure and defense of temporary or advanced naval bases in the theatre of operations.

NAVAL BASES

It is incontrovertible that to safeguard its interests in waters remote to its shores a nation either must have securely held bases from which operations can be directed or must be able to seize and hold certain points which can be used as such bases. A nation must also be able to strengthen the weak points in its line of communications in order to prevent an aggressive enemy from utilizing such points.

The geographical isolation of the United States with respect to the other powerful nations will, in any great war in which we may become involved except a purely defensive war, necessitate our Navy operating in regions quite remote from our shores and from our few inadequate bases. If we then contemplate a naval advance or progression over great sea distances, the possession and occupation of naval bases becomes an essential part of the plan. If the United States was so fortunate as already to possess such bases, the problem would be simplified to that extent. Unfortunately, the United States does not possess such bases, and the alternative proposition is, therefore, that we must be ready and able to seize promptly the bases that will be needed by our naval forces. On the other hand, it is equally important that we capture enemy overseas possessions close to our own territory in order to deprive him of his bases and put him at a disadvantage.

It has been recognized by the Joint Board and by the War Plans Division of Naval Operations, and is so recorded, that a large force of Marines for expeditionary work is essential to the furtherance of the naval plans, and that this force should be an integral part of the Fleet. The Joint Board has laid down that "The most important function of the Marine Corps (in relation to War Plans) is to seize and hold temporary advance bases in coöperation with the Fleet and to defend such bases until relieved by the Army."

The problem involved in the maintenance of expeditionary forces concern the strength, equipment, training, the peace time location of

such forces, and the relationship of these forces with the Navy and Army in probable operations. An expeditionary force should be sufficiently strong to be self-supporting and contain within itself all the elements for its own defense. The use of battleships, cruisers, destroyers and submarines for defending bases (held or seized by expeditionary forces) prevents their better employment in their legitimate rôle of finding and destroying the enemy. Mobility, flexibility and a state of constant preparedness require that the organization should be no larger or more complex than the service may require.

Equipment must necessarily play an important part in any campaign. The character of the equipment depends upon the character of each operation. A line of demarcation must therefore be closely drawn. For instance, the equipment for seizure and temporary occupation protected by the Fleet would be much less than that which would be needed for seizure and permanent defense. In this day of modern invention the element of surprise has been largely reduced and the advantage which has been lost through surprise must be made up by celerity of movement. It therefore follows that to be burdened with unnecessary and cumbersome equipment is to jeopardize the success of the adventure.

In general, equipment should consist of mobile artillery, search-lights, wireless, communications, air service, transportation, landing gear, special types of boats for landing heavy material, light tanks, etc. The equipment should differ from that of ships since all possible operations against sea forces, land forces, air forces, or any combination of these may occur. The equipment and personnel must be able to undertake any of these.

The training of an expeditionary force must be carried out so as to prepare the force to exercise a dual function—that of seizing a base and that of defending the base after seizure until relieved by the Army when the lines of communication have been made secure. The basic training embraces practical experience with the arms and equipment of the force and a study of the manner of its best employment. This should be followed and supplemented by actual experience with the Fleet and actual embarkation and disembarkation under conditions as near actual war conditions as possible. This enables us to learn by experience how to handle our equipment and at the same time gives

the Navy an opportunity to become familiar with the needs of the expeditionary force.

It must be understood that the Marine Expeditionary Force is as much an integral part of the Fleet as any other fighting unit and that all impedimenta, supplies, etc., must be transported by the Navy. Expeditionary forces should be considered as an integral part of the fighting line, and its equipment, material and personnel should be maintained in the same efficient condition as the component parts of the Fleet.

Coöperation between the landing force and the ships supporting must be complete. The responsibility in any campaign or adventure rests in its last analysis with the officer who commands, but his decision should be the result of mutual agreement with his subordinates rather than a compromise. History relates that the success of combined operations has often been jeopardized by the lack of unity of command. No such contingency can arise when the landing force consists of Marines, for we are part and parcel of the naval service—an integral part. A complete understanding of the respective missions of the Navy and the Marine Corps, and a familiarity with the respective functions of each organization is bound to be conducive to best results. It is reasonable, for instance, to assume that an officer whose special training has been along certained defined military lines is better fitted for command on any duty coming within this category than one whose experience along the same line is not so extensive.

The seizure and occupation or destruction of enemy bases is another important function of the expeditionary force. On both flanks of a fleet crossing the Pacific are numerous islands suitable for utilization by an enemy for radio stations, aviation, submarine, or destroyer bases, etc. All should be mopped up as progress is made. Furthermore, the presence of an expeditionary force with the fleet would add greatly to the striking power of the Commander-in-Chief of the fleet. History is replete with examples of the value of such a force. Admiral Dewey stated on more than one occasion that had he had with his fleet an expeditionary force of 5000 Marines on May 1, 1898, he would immediately have accepted the surrender of Manila and occupied it, thereby avoiding the serious international complications which arose during the long and anxious three months which elapsed before the arrival of a military force. Admiral Sampson, the official reports show, planned to utilize the Marine Battalion at

Guantanamo and the marine detachments on board the vessels of his fleet to make a surprise attack on the forts at the entrance of Santiago Harbor, thereby enabling his fleet to clear the channel of mines, enter the harbor and engage the Spanish Fleet. The disastrous sortie of Cervera's ill-fated fleet alone prevented the carrying out of this plan. One of the greatest disasters in history was the failure of the Gallipoli campaign in the World War. How different the result would probably have been if the British Mediterranean Fleet had been accompanied by an adequate expeditionary force when its first attack was made. By utilizing the principle of surprise it would have been comparatively easy to have seized the fortifications on Gallipoli Peninsula and then to have proceeded to clear the straits of mines, thereby permitting the fleet to enter the Golden Horn, to open sea communications with Russia, and to isolate all of Asiatic Turkey from contact with Bulgaria and the Central Powers.

The maintenance, equipping and training of its expeditionary force so that it will be in instant readiness to support the Fleet in the event of war, I deem to be the most important Marine Corps duty in time of peace. It is with this end in view that this force has been concentrated, that it has held field exercises annually, that it is to take part in the winter manoeuvres of the Fleet in the West Indies, and that the military and naval instruction of the officers of the Marine Corps has been developed and intensified even at the expense of some of its other activities.

I will conclude with a reference to the service of the Marine Corps during the World War from the point of view of the manner in which it carried out its mission. When the United States entered the World War, the Allies had gained control of the seas, and the sea lanes, except for enemy submarines, were open for transportation of the military forces overseas. The necessity for an expeditionary force to support the Fleet did not then exist, and the Marine Corps activities in support of the Navy were confined to an expansion of the guards of navy yards, etc., etc., the garrisoning of Haiti and Santo Domingo, the supplying of detachments for duty on board naval vessels, and the organization of three regiments, two for duty in Cuba, and one to be held in readiness at Galveston for possible duty in the Mexican oil fields. Expansion for the performance of these duties did not by any means exhaust its latent possibilities for service, and I for one believed that it was the part of wisdom to utilize to the fullest extent these

latent possibilities by organizing an expeditionary force for service with the Army. This was done, and the 4th and 5th Brigades and twelve replacement battalions, a total of nearly 30,000 officers and men, were sent overseas. I feel certain that in the wars yet to come a similar procedure will be followed and that such part of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Force as may not be required for use by the Fleet after it has gained control of the seas will be detached for service with the Army by order of the President. This course would be in accord with the military principle as "Economy of Force," and what is of still more importance, it would be in accord with the patriotic principle that, in the event of war, every man, especially those trained for war, should do his utmost to aid in the winning of the war.

THE EXECUTIVE STAFF

By CAPTAIN E. F. C. COLLIER, U.S.M.C.

THE term "Executive Staff" was first brought to the attention of most officers of the Marine Corps when the present form of Fitness Report was issued. To many the term is still meaningless. To state that the Executive Staff of a Marine Corps Force or Independent Brigade is the same as the General Staff of an Army Division, while absolutely true, does not get us very far, for the majority of officers of the Corps have but the haziest ideas as to what constitute the duties and functions of the General Staff in either our own or foreign armies.

The Executive Staff is that body of assistants to the Commanding General of a Force or Independent Brigade of Marines which coordinates the work of the Administrative, Technical, and Supply Staffs, and of the Troops; and which composes and issues the detailed orders by which the decisions of the commanding General are communicated to the Troops.

In this connection the following quotation from the Army Reorganization Act of 4 June, 1920, applies with equal weight to the Executive Staff in the Marine Corps:

"The duties of the General Staff with troops shall be to render professional aid and assistance to the general officers over them; to act as their agents in harmonizing the plans, duties, and operations of the various organizations and services under their jurisdiction, in preparing detailed instructions for the execution of the plans of the commanding generals, and in supervising the execution of such instructions."

As the size of a unit and the complexity of its organization increase, it becomes more and more difficult for its commander to handle personally all the details of administration and supply. While retaining actual command, while deciding on the objectives which he desires to attain and the policies which he desires to carry out, he must delegate to a subordinate or group of subordinates the tasks of arranging minor details and performing the routine work which is necessary to allow the command as a whole to function. Such a group of subordinates is called a staff. In a company it consists of the "Second in Command" who takes direct charge of the work of

the staff, and a group of N.C.O.'s, including the 1st Sergeant (Administration and Personnel), and the Mess and Supply Sergeants. In the Company all details of Enemy Information and of Operations and Training are handled directly by the Company Commander.

In the Battalion, Regiment and Brigade acting as part of a larger unit, additional Staff personnel is provided to handle the details of Enemy Information and of Operations and training, as well as the technical work of signal communication and care of the sick and wounded.

In units up to include a Brigade as part of a larger unit the main bulk of the personnel are of one arm of the service, Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Air Service or whatever else they may be. In the Independent Brigade or Force, however, as in the Army Division, two or more of these arms are combined under one commander, usually a general officer. Several more sections are added to the Administrative, Technical, and Supply Staffs, such as the Judge Advocate's Section, the Inspector's Section, the Paymaster's Section, and the Provost Marshal. The General then finds himself in much the same position with relation to his Staff as the Company Commander with his Company. The mass of detail to be handled, the multitude of minor decisions to be made, and the diversity of functions to be coördinated, become too great to be handled with maximum efficiency by one man. Even in the lower units the Second in Command or Executive Officer relieves his commander of a considerable part of this burden. In the Independent Brigade and large units one Executive Officer is not enough to perform the functions assigned to that officer in lower units. It is necessary therefore to have several executive officers whose work in turn is directly supervised and coördinated by a chief. This group of executive officers and their chief are called, in the Marine Corps, the Executive Staff. In our own and foreign armies they constitute the General Staff. The Marine Corps term is more nearly self-explanatory.

The functions coördinated by the Executive Staff fall into four main groups:

1. Personnel and Routine Administration.
2. Information of the Enemy (Intelligence).
3. Operations, Plans, Orders and Training.
4. Supply, Maintenance, Transportation and Evacuation.

Each of these groups of functions is coördinated by an officer

who is designated as an "Assistant Chief of Staff." A typical Executive Staff would be organized as follows:

The Chief of Staff Section:

- The Chief of Staff (Col. or Lt. Col.).
- Two Liaison Officers (Lts.).
- Enlisted clerk or stenographer.

The First (Personnel) Section:

- The Asst. C. of S., E-1 (or F-1) (Lt. Col. or Maj.).
- Commissioned Assistant (Capt.).
- Enlisted clerks (about two).

The Second (Intelligence) Section:

- The Asst. C. of S., E-2 (or F-2) (Lt. Col. or Maj.).
- Commissioned Assistants:
- One Capt. (office asst.).
- One 1st Lt. (Maps).
- One 2nd Lt. (Interpreter).
- Enlisted clerks, translators, draftsmen, observers.

The Third (Operations) Section:

- The Asst. C. of S., E-3 (or F-3) (Lt. Col. or Maj.).
- One Commissioned Assistant (Capt.).
- Enlisted clerks and stenographer (about three).

The Fourth (Supply) Section:

- The Asst. C. of S., E-4 (or F-4) (Lt. Col. or Maj.).
- One Commissioned Assistant (Capt.).
- Enlisted clerks and stenographer (about three).

Total Strength: 13 Commissioned and 23 Enlisted.

The abbreviations "E-1," etc., mean "Executive Staff, 1st Section," etc. In the East Coast Expeditionary Force, U.S.M.C., the executive staff organization of which is given above, the sections are designated "F-1," etc.

In a small Independent Brigade the same officer may function as the head of two sections. This practice may also be followed in peace time by a larger force. However, in active operations or extensive manoeuvres, the complete organization should be used: in active operations, to prevent excessive fatigue and nerve strain, and in manoeuvres to allow as many officers as possible to acquire that proficiency in Executive Staff work which can be gained only by practice. When there are only three Assistant Chiefs of Staff, the First and Fourth Sections are combined into an "Administrative and Supply

Section." When there are only two, the Second and Third Sections are combined to form an "Operations and Intelligence Section."

The term "Executive Staff" as used in the Marine Corps is less than two years old, being approved by Headquarters on the suggestion of the Tactical Department of the Marine Corps Schools in January, 1922. However, such a group in the Staff of a Marine Brigade acting independently has been authorized for about five years. In April, 1919, the Planning Section at Marine Corps Headquarters issued "Provisional Tables of Organization and Equipment" in which there was included in the Table for an Independent Brigade Headquarters a "Staff and Liaison" section of ten Commissioned and one Warrant Officers and twenty Enlisted. There were three Assistant Chiefs of Staff, the 1st Section handling Administration and Supply, as was the case in the Army Division Staff during the World War. In March, 1920, new tables were issued by Headquarters replacing the Provisional Tables of 1919. In these tables there was again included in the Brigade Headquarters a "Staff and Liaison" Section organized in the same manner.

In the early fall of 1921, a staff was organized for the "East Coast Expeditionary Force" at Quantico in preparation for the manœuvres in the Wilderness Run Area. In this staff was included a section referred to as the "General Staff." It was organized as follows:

Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Holcomb.
Asst. C. of S., G-1 and G-4, Maj. Clapp.
Asst. C. of S., G-2 and G-3, Maj. Keyser.
Asst. G-1, Capt. Jenkins.
Asst. G-2, (For Map Work) Capt. H. C. Pierce.
Asst. G-4, Capt. Collier.
About 6 enlisted clerks and draftsmen.

Colonel Holcomb was Post Chief of Staff at Quantico, and the other officers were instructors in the Marine Corps Schools. The "General Staff" Section was handicapped by shortage of commissioned and particularly of enlisted personnel, and by the lack of experience of most of the Line and Staff officers of the Force in functioning with a General Staff system.

During the school year 1921-22, a course in "Staff Duties" was organized by the Tactical Department of the Field Officers' School under the direction of Major Keyser, who had been G-2 on the Staff of the Second Division in France and Germany. It was originally

intended to take the Tables of Organization, United States Marine Corps, 1920, as the basis of the course; and the first conference was prepared and delivered to the class on that basis. Partly from the experience gained in the Wilderness Manoeuvre and partly from a careful study of the functions assigned in the Tables of 1920, the school recommended that the organization of the Force Headquarters and Headquarters Company be changed by changing the designation of the "Staff and Liaison" Section to "Executive Staff" Section as being a more exact title. It is also recommended that the Machine Gun and Howitzer Major and the Warrant Officer be dropped, and one major as Asst. C. of S., F-4, three captains and three enlisted men be added to the total; while at the same time dropping the 1st Sergeant and two of the sergeants, and increasing the corporals from four to six. The course in Staff Duties was continued, and the Executive Staff of the Quantico Force organized for the Gettysburg Manoeuvres, on that basis. The Executive Staff on that manœuvre functioned with much greater facility than in the Wilderness, due to the large number of officers on the staffs, of subordinate units who had received instruction in Staff Duties at the Field Officers' School, and so were talking the same language" as the Executive Staff Officers.

As with all new things, the Executive Staff has met with considerable adverse comment. The only really serious criticism is that the Executive Staff as organized seems to be a very large organization to superimpose on a force of only 4000 men, hardly more than a war strength regiment; and that it makes the Force top-heavy. That would be true were the Executive Staff organized at full strength while the Force is in garrison at Quantico, or if the Force at war strength were only 4000 men. Its war strength, however, is nearer 10,000 men, or almost the strength of a European Division (The United States Army Division has a strength of 19,069). Moreover, in spite of its numerical strength, its staff has to coördinate almost as many different arms of the service and staff sections, and so has as complicated if not as large a staff problem, as the Army Division. Most important of all, if we want officers trained to function on the staff of large units in time of war, or as subordinate commanders in such units when functioning under a full staff, we should organize complete Executive Staffs in our Forces and Independent Brigades in peace time, especially during manœuvres.

QUARTERMASTER SERGEANTS

BY QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT GEORGE LENTZ, U.S.M.C.

THE following article was submitted to the GAZETTE through the Quartermaster Department at Marine Corps Headquarters. It was deemed by officers of that department to apply in a most timely manner to a question of the greatest interest to the Marine Corps, and is published in the hope that it may stimulate discussion and assist in the promotion of efficiency in an important branch of our service.

The writer has recently had occasion to discuss with a fellow quartermaster sergeant the woful, indifferent and, in some cases, even antipathetical relations existing nowadays between quartermaster sergeants and the officers over them, such as commanding officers, post quartermasters, duty officers and others. It was in a moment of reminiscence that we fondly spoke of the old days, before the war, when a quartermaster sergeant at a post was a personage, held in the highest esteem by his commanding officer and trusted implicitly by his quartermaster. His advice on matters pertaining to the quartermaster's department was sought and followed by officers of high rank; he knew his "book;" he was looked up to by the enlisted men of the command with almost envious eyes, hoping that in some miraculous manner they too would reach such a desired billet, and thus be able to inform the folks at home of the newly acquired triangle on the sleeves. It was the respect and confidence enjoyed those days by this rank that make the present conditions stand out in bold contrast. Yes, times have changed, and, in the hope of regaining the lost prestige, and for the benefit of the service in general, this article is sincerely offered to my fellow quartermaster sergeants.

Prior to the War there was a sort of unwritten law that before a quartermaster sergeant was appointed, he had to have at least five years' service, although in a few instances exceptions were made. So sure was Headquarters of his ability to fill the position, and so weighty were the recommendations, that he was appointed without examination, and it would be hard to recall a case where such an appointment was misplaced, at least from a professional point of view. With the beginning of the War, such guarded and discriminate selec-

tions could not be continued, and Headquarters established a school for quartermaster sergeants, its graduates forming the bulk of this rank in the service at present. Moreover, during the war period all such appointments were temporary, but the present Major-General Commandant, upon assuming command about two years ago, ordered that all temporary warrants be made permanent. This act should have proved a stimulus to all young quartermaster sergeants to redouble their efforts, study up on their work with a view of rendering the utmost service, if only from a sense of appreciation. But I could observe no such effect when the order was published. Instead, an unwarranted relaxation and total indifference to their lack of experience was the rejoinder. Their worries were over, their appointments were permanent. But it should not be assumed that those individuals are not known to their officers. On the contrary, commanding officers are experienced and of long service, and they can "spot" one just as fast as he shows up.

Under the present system of staff details, it is not always possible to have post quartermasters of all around experience, and in some cases, especially at distant stations, quartermaster duties are wished on young officers because they happen to be the only ones available. In such cases, they are obliged to rely entirely on the integrity of their quartermaster sergeants. The latter being well paid—the highest any enlisted man can receive—it is natural that they are expected to and should know their duties in all the multifarious branches of the department. There are those who are always willing to learn, and there are others who "know it all" and do not even deem it necessary to dust off their relegated System of Accountability. The resultant work of the two types becomes apparent soon enough: the former acquires a reputation which stands him in good stead, while the latter acquires a reputation also, but in the wrong direction.

There is, for instance, the popular notion that the auditors and clerks at Headquarters take a fiendish delight in detecting mistakes in returns and reports, and that if all paper work were to be submitted without errors these clerks and auditors would lose their jobs. There is nothing further from the truth. The writer has never been at Headquarters, but ventures to state that not a single clerk is employed there that is not absolutely necessary to transact the normal volume of business and, if paper work comes in carelessly prepared or with many errors, it creates at once an abnormal situation, requiring an unexpected volume of correspondence or delays. No human is infal-

lible, and any one of us is apt to make a clerical error. However, there is a difference between those making occasional errors and those who are chronic offenders, due chiefly to carelessness. And the various admonishings and suggestions contained in some of the monthly bulletins issued by the Quartermaster, indicate that faulty paper work is by no means diminishing. It is not necessary that a quartermaster sergeant do all the paper work personally. His clerks should do most of it, while he should confine himself to checking and verifying. Right here I can perceive a noisy chorus of "Where do you get these clerks?" To this I would reply that commanding officers, as a rule, will nearly always meet reasonable requests for assistance, but the utmost tact should be used, especially when it is known that the post is short of men. Where sufficient help is not available, the quartermaster sergeant most certainly has to do the work himself, and if the regular working hours do not suffice, extra time has to be made use of. Much advance work, such as routine matters, etc., can be done during dull periods, so that crowding at the end of the month or accounting periods are avoided.

Since we are serving in a military establishment, the discipline of which is founded on rank, great care should be taken to maintain the proper respect for it among subordinates. It is not necessary to snub anybody, but the calling of quartermaster sergeants by their first name, nickname, or other irrelevant appellation should most emphatically not be tolerated. Post quartermasters are alert to all such discipline-breaking deficiencies, and cannot be blamed for treating you accordingly. Complaints are often heard that when a man is reported by a non-commissioned officer the commanding officer declines to punish him, or when the man's relief is sought, the request somehow is ignored or frustrated. This never happens to a non-commissioned officer who is known as such in every sense of the word. Commanding officers, more than anyone else in the post, are keenly interested in the discipline of the men under them, but they cannot be expected to take notice of reports made by irresponsible or biased non-commissioned officers. Officers have a passion for the reliable, just, even-tempered sergeant, and once he has demonstrated himself as such, he never suffers humiliation when reporting a man for disciplinary action.

All of us are familiar with the type of quartermaster sergeant whose desk is habitually littered with a maze of papers; who is always busy and always in a hurry; who talks excitedly over the telephone

and in his vain desire to make an impression he gives a silly answer; whose files are in a perpetual state of disorder or lacking system, and who burns the "midnight oil" thereby expecting to prove his qualities. Well, personally, I never could admire this type, for if one is never through with his work, it betrays clumsiness, inefficiency or, worst of all, inaptitude. There is not a blank form in the quartermaster's department, nor in the Marine Corps, for the matter of that, that the average intelligent person cannot accomplish even though he never had occasion to use it before. And to see how some are at bay when something new or unusual comes up, is more serious than ludicrous. While nearly every quartermaster is congenial and ready to help his sergeants with advice when some new problem comes up, yet it is imperative that quartermaster sergeants familiarize themselves gradually, with all duties and regulations pertaining to the department in all its branches, instead of relying on his superior for solution. I have known at least one quartermaster, now out of the service, who would never commit himself one way or another, and whose one and invariable reply to all questions was: "Comply with regulations." In his way he was right, for every man under him made it a point to study the regulations, thereby avoiding the being in a frequent state of dilemma.

From the time the word of "economy" became the watchword of all Government establishments, and to which policy the present administration is irrevocably committed, I have heard on more than one occasion indifferent comment on the repeated behests from Headquarters to support said policy. While no one in the service would dare express open defiance, still, an unsympathetic view of the orders relating to economy is sufficient to nullify a lot of what can be accomplished in that direction. Quartermaster sergeants are in an enviable position to contribute their share in saving the nation's funds, particularly those who are in charge of equipment, public property and fuel supply, and it would lead too far to mention here the many opportunities they have to exercise their coöperation in this respect. When taking inventory of a storeroom, care should be taken not to omit anything or mistake the contents of a box or bale which may be marked as containing one thing while actually it contains something else. The very boxes which you are sure contain certain articles, and which at former inventories were always carried as such, should invariably be opened and verified. Shortages in stock, nowadays, cannot so easily be disposed of as in former years, as surveys are

scrutinized very closely by Boards as well as by Headquarters. For articles actually worn out in use or other legitimate requirements there are ample provisions; it's the waste that the campaign is against, and all of us are duty-bound to assist in its prevention. But in doing this, we must never lose sight of the fact that the quartermaster's department at a post is there for the sole purpose of serving the troops and that every article in the storeroom, from a cake of soap to a three-inch field piece, is there for issue, the only proviso being the proper order from your commanding officer or quartermaster.

The writer has yet to see the quartermaster sergeant who, upon relieving another, or taking charge of predecessor's work, did not have a long story to tell of how he found the office upside down when he took it over; how hopelessly confused the correspondence files were; how utterly impossible it was to find anything; in what horrible shape the memorandum receipts were, and in what a mess he found the storerooms. This is one of his first laments, or alibi, to his quartermaster and every other human within hearing distance. Such futile criticism, even if the situation was such as described, does not help anybody, and in most cases it cannot fail to have an opposite effect on the quartermaster. It is true that some offices are not exactly as they should be, and that some storerooms leave much to be desired in the way of orderliness. Where this is the case, the newcomer should lose no time in arranging things properly, without ostentation, and abstain from deriding or otherwise trying to injure the reputation of his predecessor, for that is precisely what such criticism leads to. Of course, the line is drawn to downright neglect, or false statements pertaining to receipts, etc., which cases should never be allowed to pass without proper report. In short, stop knocking and show results, for only in this way can a newcomer impress his superiors favorably.

All of the foregoing has the aspect of a scathing arraignment of quartermaster sergeants, but this was not the intention. It is rather a friendly discussion of how we may improve ourselves and thus once more regain the esteem of the officers over us, such as existed before the War, and to revive the old spirit of confidence among quartermaster sergeants that flourished in former years. If this is brought about within the next two years, we may consider ourselves fortunate, indeed, although there is every reason to believe that as we gain in experience, we become better seasoned and more familiar with service ways, to the lack of which may be ascribed the present unsatisfactory situation.

MARINE CORPS LEGISLATION

THE following recommendations for legislation have been submitted by the Marine Corps to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, to be embodied in bills for action by the present Congress. At the time of going to press (December 30th) it seems probable that this legislation will be divided between the two omnibus Naval Bills, the first to deal with matters of administration and personnel and the second with proposed purchases of land, which will probably be known as the Omnibus Administrative and Omnibus Land Bills.

On December 6th, Representative Butler of the House Naval Affairs Committee introduced the Omnibus Naval Bill which failed passage in the last session of Congress, without change. It is probable that new bills as indicated, embodying changes deemed desirable, will be substituted for this measure and will come before Congress for early action. The text for Marine Corps recommendations for legislation is as follows:

MARINE BAND

That the band of the United States Marine Corps shall consist of one leader whose pay and allowances shall be those of a captain in the Marine Corps; one second leader whose pay shall be \$200 per month and who shall have the allowances of a sergeant major; ten principal musicians whose pay shall be \$150 per month; twenty-five first class musicians whose pay shall be \$125 per month; twenty second-class musicians whose pay shall be \$100 per month; and ten third-class musicians whose pay shall be \$85 per month; such musicians of the band to have the allowances of a sergeant: Provided, That the second leader and musicians of the band shall receive the same increases for length of service and the same enlistment allowance or gratuity for reënlisting as is now or may hereafter be provided for other enlisted men of the Marine Corps: Provided further, That the pay authorized herein for the second leader and the musicians of the band shall be effective from July 1, 1922, and shall apply in computing the pay of former members of the band now on the retired list and who have been retired since June 30, 1922: Provided further, That in the event of promotion of the second leader, or a musician of the band to leader of the band, all service as such second leader, or as such musician of the band, or both, shall be counted in computing longevity increase in pay: And provided further, That hereafter during concert tours approved by the President, members of the Marine Band shall suffer no loss of allowances.

PURCHASE OF CIVILIAN CLOTHING

Provided further, That hereafter the appropriation, "Maintenance, Quartermaster's Department, Marine Corps," shall be available for the purchase

of civilian outer clothing, not to exceed \$15 per man, to be issued when necessary to Marines discharged for bad conduct.

PURCHASE OF TOWN OF QUANTICO, VA.

That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, authorized to acquire by purchase, subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by The Congress, as an essential addition to the Marine Corps reservation at Quantico, Va., all land, together with improvements thereon, lying between the right of way of the R. F. and P. Railroad and the Potomac River, and between the boundary line of that part of the Government reservation lying to the south and west of such land and the boundary line of that part of the Government reservation lying to the north and east of such land, and known as the town of Quantico, at a total cost not to exceed \$600,000.

FIXING NUMBER OF MAJOR GENERALS IN THE MARINE CORPS

That in the Marine Corps, in addition to the Major General Commandant, one third (to the nearest whole number) of the officers of the line with rank senior to colonel shall be major generals and one of the three heads of staff departments shall have the rank, pay and allowances of major general while so serving: *Provided*, That the Major General Commandant shall be *ex officio* the ranking officer of the Marine Corps; *And provided further*, That appointments as major general and as head of a staff department with the rank of major general shall be made by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

MARINE CORPS DEPOT, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

That the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to take the necessary steps to construct a building for use as a supply depot for the Marine Corps, San Francisco, California, the cost, including the grading of the site, not to exceed \$335,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to transfer to the Navy Department a tract of land situated in the city of San Francisco, California, consisting of four fifty-vara lots fronting two hundred and seventy-five feet on the north side of Harrison Street and extending back bounded by Spear and Main Streets two hundred and seventy-five feet, for use as a site for the building herein authorized.

EXAMINATION, PROMOTION, AND RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS

That hereafter brigadier generals of the line shall, subject to physical examination, be appointed from the colonels of the line, and colonels and lieutenant colonels of the line and officers of the permanent staff of corresponding rank shall, subject to the usual examinations for promotion, be appointed from the lieutenant colonels and majors respectively and officers of the permanent staff of corresponding rank in accordance with their seniority on the common list for promotion, whose names are borne on eligible lists prepared annually or oftener if necessary by a board of not less than five general officers of the Marine Corps, and approved by the President.

That hereafter, as vacancies occur, the heads of staff departments shall be appointed for terms of four years from officers holding permanent appointments in the departments in which the vacancies occur, whose names appear

on eligible lists prepared annually or oftener if necessary by a board of not less than five officers of the Marine Corps above the grade or rank of colonel, including the major general commandant and the heads of staff departments, and approved by the President, but no head of a staff department appointed for a term of four years shall sit as a member of the board during consideration of names for the eligible list for his department: Provided, That in case there be no officer holding a permanent appointment in a staff department whose name is borne on the eligible list for appointment as head of that department, the appointment shall be made from officers of field rank of the Marine Corps whose names are borne on the aforesaid eligible list for that department.

That any officer of the grade or rank of colonel, lieutenant colonel or major whose name is not borne on one of the current eligible lists for appointment as brigadier general or as head of a staff department, or to the grade or rank of colonel or lieutenant colonel respectively, shall, if more than fifty-six years of age in the grade or rank of colonel, more than fifty in that of lieutenant colonel, or more than forty-five in that of major, be retired with a percentage of the pay received by him at the date of retirement equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per centum for each year of total active service, to be computed in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to readjust the pay and allowances of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service," approved June 10, 1922, not to exceed 75 per centum:

That no officer of the Marine Corps below the grade or rank of colonel shall be promoted or advanced in grade or rank on the active list unless the examining board provided for in the Act approved July 28, 1892, entitled "An Act to provide for the examination of certain officers of the Marine Corps, and to regulate promotions therein" (Twenty-seventh Statutes, page 321), shall, in addition to making such certificate of qualification for promotion or advancement as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy, certify that there is sufficient evidence before the board to satisfy the board that the officer is fully qualified professionally for the higher grade or rank.

That when the said examining board shall consist of seven or more officers of the Marine Corps, any officer whose case is before it may be found not professionally qualified without the right to be present or to challenge members of said board.

That any officer of the Marine Corps who fails to qualify professionally upon examination for promotion or advancement shall be reexamined as soon as may be expedient after the expiration of one year if he in the meantime again becomes due for promotion, and if he does not in the meantime again become due for promotion, he shall be reexamined at such time anterior to again becoming due for promotion as may be for the best interests of the service: Provided, That if any such officer of less than ten years' total active service, exclusive of service as midshipman or cadet at the United States Naval Academy or the United States Military Academy, fails to qualify professionally upon reexamination he shall be honorably discharged from the Marine Corps with one year's pay: Provided further, That if any such officer of more than ten years' total active service, exclusive of service as midshipman or cadet

at the United States Naval Academy or the United States Military Academy, fails to qualify professionally upon reexamination, he shall not be discharged from the Marine Corps on account of such failure, but shall thereafter be ineligible for promotion or advancement; and any such officer shall be retired with a percentage of the pay received by him at the date of retirement equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per centum for each year of service, to be computed in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to readjust the pay and allowances of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service," approved June 10, 1922, not to exceed 75 per centum, upon attaining, or if they have previously attained, the ages in the various grades and ranks, as follows: Lieutenant colonel, fifty years; major and company officers, forty-five years; and Provided further, That any such officer who is ineligible for promotion by reason of having failed to qualify professionally upon reexamination may, after one year from the date of the approval of the report of the board of examination, be restored to eligibility for promotion upon the approved recommendation of the board for the preparation of the eligible lists for the grades of brigadier general, colonel, and lieutenant colonel, and shall take position on the common list for promotion in accordance with his seniority on the date of approval.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND CHIEF WARRANT OFFICERS

That the warrant grade of pay clerk in the Marine Corps is hereby established, appointments thereto to be made in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy. Officers in said grade shall have the same rank, pay, allowances, and other benefits as now are or may hereafter be allowed other warrant officers in the Marine Corps. Pay Clerks now in the Marine Corps who are warranted as pay clerks under the provisions of this section shall take rank in accordance with their present dates of precedence.

That the commissioned warrant grades of chief marine gunner, chief quartermaster clerk, and chief pay clerk in the Marine Corps are hereby established, and that marine gunners, quartermaster clerks, and pay clerks shall be commissioned chief marine gunners, chief quartermaster clerks, and chief pay clerks, respectively, under the same conditions as are now or may hereafter be prescribed for the appointment of commissioned warrant officers of the Navy; and when so commissioned they shall have the same rank, pay, allowances, and other benefits as are now or may hereafter be allowed commissioned warrant officers of the Navy: Provided, That the total active service as clerk to assistant paymaster, pay clerk, warrant officer and commissioned officer, whether under a permanent or temporary appointment in the Marine Corps or the Marine Corps Reserve shall be counted in computing the six-year period from date of warrant required for appointment as commissioned warrant officers: Provided further, That nothing contained herein shall be construed so as to reduce the pay, allowances, emoluments, or other benefits that any person now in the service would have received but for the passage of this section: And provided further, That the total number of warrant officers and commissioned warrant officers shall not exceed the number of warrant officers and pay clerks now authorized by law.

MARINE CORPS HISTORY, 1815 TO 1817

BY MAJOR EDWIN NORTH McCLELLAN, U.S.M.C.

THE treaty of peace concluded with England at Ghent on December 24, 1814, was announced in America in 1815, too late to prevent the Battle of New Orleans and the Naval victories of the *Constitution* and the *Hornet*.

EVENTS PRECEDING THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS

The four outstanding features of the defense of New Orleans during the latter part of 1814 and early 1815 were: The operations of the five gunboats (on which Marines served) under Lieutenant Thomas Ap Catesby Jones on Lake Borgne; the night attack of the forces (including a company of Marines) of General Jackson on the British army, December 23rd; the successful repelling by Jackson's soldiers, sailors and Marines of the British attack on December 28th; and the remarkable victory of the Americans on January 8, 1815, in which battle Marines shared the glory with the Soldiers and Bluejackets.

The Marines participating in these operations consisted of Major Daniel Carmick, who served with Plauche's Battalion of Volunteers but who supervised all Marines at the New Orleans station; those on all the gunboats; those on the *Carolina*, *Louisiana*, *Aetna*, etc.; those at the Tchifonte Navy Yard; and the splendid company under First Lieutenant Francis Barbin De Bellevue that formed a part of Jackson's victorious army.

THE NAVAL BATTLE NEAR THE MALHEUREUSES ISLANDS

Early in December, Commodore Daniel T. Patterson, commanding the Naval force at New Orleans, received information that a British expedition was on its way to attack New Orleans. Acting on this information the Commodore sent five gunboats (*Numbers 5, 23, 156, 162 and 163*), the schooner *Sea-horse* and the tender *Alligator*, under Lieutenant Thomas Ap Catesby Jones, toward the Passes Marianna and Christian to watch the enemy's movements on Lake Borgne.

Between December 9th and 13th, the American gunboats kept watch on the British force. At ten o'clock on the morning of the 13th a large flotilla of barges left the British fleet and shaped their course

towards the Pass Christian, which was gained at about two o'clock. The intention of the enemy to attack the five American gunboats at anchor near the Malheureuse Islands, was evident.

The schooner *Sea-horse* that had been sent into the St. Louis Bay that morning to assist in the removal of the public stores was the first target of the enemy. However, the gallant crew of that schooner repulsed the attack, destroyed the public storehouse and stores, and blew up their vessel, to prevent them from falling into the enemy's hands.

The tender *Alligator* was the second objective of the British and was captured by the enemy on the next morning. Having eliminated these two vessels, the British, with between forty and fifty barges, then concentrated their attack upon the five gunboats. Seldom has such gallantry and courage been equalled in the history of the world than was shown in this engagement by these outnumbered Americans. All the gunboats were captured, but the action added another and distinguished honor to the naval character of our country. Moreover, Lieutenant Jones accomplished his mission, though defeated, since he delayed the British a sufficient length of time to permit General Jackson time to prepare his defense.

Small Marine guards served on each of these five gunboats, sharing the glory and suffering the losses with the Bluejackets. Six Americans were killed and thirty-five wounded. The Marine Guard of Flag gunboat No. 156, suffered severely with three privates killed and one corporal and one private wounded. The killed were Privates Laurence Collins, James Vasbinder, and James Robinson.

Writing on October 3, 1845, to the Secretary of the Navy, Jones, then a Commodore, stated that "the check of nine days which the taking of the gunboats caused, was of incalculable advantage to the operations of General Jackson, as he never failed to acknowledge with that candor and generosity which ever accompanies true greatness."

Let us take the word of Alexander Cochrane, the British Commander-in-Chief, as to the delaying effect the presence of these American gunboats had upon the British advance. On December 16th, according to Latour, Cochrane reported that since "our principal means of transport [was] open boats, it became impossible that any movement of the troops could take place till this formidable flotilla was either captured or destroyed." It took over nine days to accomplish this preliminary mission. General Jackson, "the Old

Chief," reported the *National Intelligencer*, "delighted to speak of the heroism displayed in the naval conflict alluded to, and spoke of Jones as a man after his own heart."

THE AFFAIR OF DECEMBER 23RD

The British landed on December 23, 1814, and by four o'clock that morning were at the extremity of Villere's Canal. General Jackson soon received information of the enemy's approach, and by half-past two in the afternoon, two field pieces manned by a detachment of artillery supported by part of the 7th Infantry "and a detachment of Marines, commanded by Lieutenant Bellevue, were all formed on the road, near Montreuil's Plantation." Within the next hour and a half the other American troops had taken position along Rodriguez's Canal.

At 7.00 p.m., the schooner *Carolina* dropped down the river, and anchored off Villere's, within musket shot distance of the centre of the British camp. A half an hour later she opened a tremendous fire from her batteries and in the course of ten minutes killed or wounded at least one hundred men. The British returned the fire, but the *Carolina* silenced their guns and drove the enemy from their camp. The American troops in the meantime were advancing. The right of the troops under the personal command of General Jackson, was composed of the regulars, Plauche's and Daquin's battalions, McRea's artillery supported by a detachment of Marines under First Lieutenant Francis B. De Bellevue. Also two hundred "men-of-color," chiefly from Haiti, raised by Colonel Savary and acting under the command of Major Daquin. Major Daniel Carmick of the Marines, served with Plauche's Brigade in this battle. The Americans moved down the road along the Levee and soon attacked the British camp which had already been bombarded by the *Carolina*. "The artillerists advanced up the Levee Road with the Marines, when the British made a desperate attempt to seize their guns. There was a fierce struggle. Jackson saw it and hastening to the spot, in the midst of a shower of bullets, he shouted, *Save the guns, my boys, at any sacrifice.* They did so."¹ Major Latour, in his *Historical Memoirs of the War in Louisiana and Western Florida* wrote that he saw General Jackson "in advance of all who were near him, at a time when the enemy was making a charge on the artillery * * * spiriting and urging on the Marines * * *

¹ Parton's, *Life of Jackson*, Vol. 2, p. 90.

who, animated by the presence and voice of their gallant commander-in-chief, attacked the enemy so briskly that they soon forced him to retire." Reënforcements then arrived and the engagement became general. A second force of Americans then attacked the enemy from another point and reached the centre of the British camp. The British sullenly retired to their original line, where they remained unmolested.

Among the casualties to the Marines on this date were Lieutenant Bellevue (wounded), Acting Lieutenant Gillies Thompson (wounded), Private John C. Ward (killed) and Private Michael McCarthy (wounded), who later died of his wounds. Thompson was a private of Marines at the time, but was appointed an Acting Lieutenant by Major Carmick. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on April 12, 1815, upon the earnest recommendation of Major Carmick.

"The result of the affair of the 23rd was the saving of Louisiana, for it cannot be doubted but that the enemy had he not been attacked with such impetuosity, when he had hardly effected his disembarkation, would, that very night or early next morning, have marched against the city, which was not then covered by any fortification, and was defended by hardly five thousand men, mostly militia, who could not, in the open field, have withstood disciplined troops, accustomed to the use of the bayonet, a weapon with which most of the militia were unprovided," concluded Latour.

The *Carolina* was blown up on December 27th, by a hot-shot from the enemy's batteries, and her officers, Marines and Bluejackets joined General Jackson's artillery.

THE BATTLE OF DECEMBER 28TH

The British attacked on the 28th. In this battle "the company of Marines, commanded by Lieutenant Bellevue," was stationed in the centre of the line.

The enemy's advance was a feint to try what effect would be produced on the raw troops by the sight of columns marching, displaying and forming in order of battle. The absolute failure of the demonstration to impress the Americans was a bitter disappointment to the British.

The *Louisiana* performed an important part in this operation with her guns, as they were better calculated than any other to annoy the enemy, since they were in an oblique direction to his line of march. She fired upwards of eight hundred shot.

Major Carmick, while commanding Plauche's Battalion, was severely wounded. The *Louisiana Gazette* of February 2, 1815, as quoted in the *Washington National Intelligencer* of March 5, 1815, reported that among the wounded "we have to lament Major Carmick of the Marine Corps, who lost his thumb, and was otherwise severely wounded; the service was thus deprived of the experience, discipline, and gallantry of this valuable officer." General Jackson's Adjutant-General reported among other things that "Major Plauche's battalion of volunteers, though deprived of the valuable services of Major Carmick, who commanded them, by a wound which that officer received in the attack of the 28th of December," performed excellent service.

Alexander Walker in his *Jackson and New Orleans* wrote: "That gallant officer, Major Carmick, of the Marine Corps, was among the wounded. Whilst delivering an order to Major Plauche near the centre of the American line, he was struck by a rocket, which tore his horse to pieces and wounded the Major in the arm and head."

Latour, in describing the wounding of Major Carmick, wrote that "during the whole day, the enemy incessantly threw Congreve rockets, which wounded some of our men. By one of these, Major Carmick, of the Marines, had his horse killed, and was himself wounded."

A skirmish occurred on New Years' Day.

THE VICTORY OF JANUARY 8TH

On the eighth of January, 1815, after full preparation, the enemy attacked the soldiers, sailors and Marines of General Jackson, at his own time, in his own manner, and with the highest hopes of success.

In this spectacular battle the forces of General Jackson occupied both banks of the Mississippi River immediately below New Orleans. His main body was posted on the East Bank along Rodriguez's Canal extending from the river on the right to an impenetrable cypress swamp on the left. Nine different batteries, with a total of fifteen guns, were stationed at intervals along the line. Upton states that two of these batteries were served "by the former Marines and sailors of the U. S. S. *Carolina*."

Captain Beall's Rifle Company occupied the extreme right. Then came Battery No. 1. Next, the Seventh Regiment with Battery No. 2, manned by part of the *Carolina's* Bluejackets and Marines, posted in its centre. On the left of the Seventh was Battery No. 3. Then came

Major Plauche's battalion and that of Lacoste. Lieutenant Crawley's No. 4 Battery manned by Bluejackets and Marines of the *Carolina* was on Lacoste's left while on his own right was Daquin's battalion of free Haitian "men of color." Then came the 44th Regiment and Battery No. 5. Lieutenant Bellevue's company of Marines (66 strong) was stationed between this battery and Battery No. 6. General Carroll's command, including Batteries No. 7 and No. 8, and General Coffee's command, completed the line.

About dawn on the 8th the enemy shot off a Congreve rocket which was the signal for the attack. About the same instant Battery No. 6 discharged a shot, the first of the battle. The enemy "advanced nearly in the direction of Battery No. 7," on the right of which were stationed Bellevue's Marines. Batteries No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8, now opened an incessant fire on the hostile column, which continued to advance in pretty good order until in a few minutes the fire of the infantry and Marines joining their musketry with that of the artillery, soon threw it in confusion. Sir Edward Packenham, the British commander-in-chief, fell at a spot about two hundred yards from the American lines and about four hundred yards in a forty-five degree left-oblique direction from the position of the Marines.

In the brief space of about twenty-five minutes the enemy lost over two thousand killed and wounded and five hundred surrendered as prisoners. This terrible slaughter was attended on our side by the loss of but seven killed and six wounded. An attack on the extreme left on Coffee's troops was easily repulsed, and another advance of the enemy between the River and the Levee was also turned back although the enemy got into a redoubt, from which he was summarily expelled.

The enemy met some measure of success on the opposite shore, but retired without following up their advantage.

MARINES COMMENDED

General Jackson commended the Marines in General Orders signed by his Adjutant General dated January 21, 1815, in these words: "Before the camp at these memorable lines shall be broken up, the general thinks it a duty to the brave army which has defended them, publicly to notice the conduct of the different corps which compose it. The behaviour of the regular troops, consisting of parts of the 7th and 44th Regiments of Infantry, and the Corps of Marines, all commanded by Colonel Ross, has been such as to merit his [Jackson's] warm approbation. * * *"

General Jackson having thus expressed his appreciation of the

services of the Marines, Commodore Patterson, on January 27th, added his praise to that of General Jackson in these words: "My petty officers, seamen and Marines performed their duty to my entire satisfaction" and "to Major Daniel Carmick, commanding the Marine Corps on this station, I am indebted for the promptness with which my requisitions on him have been complied with, and the strong desire he has always manifested to further, as far as was in his power, my views."

Then on February 22, 1815, Congress recognized the splendid achievements of the Marines when it resolved to "entertain a high sense of the valor and good conduct of Major Daniel Carmick, of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and Marines, under his command, in the defense of the said city [New Orleans] on the late memorable occasion."

Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton was very delighted with the victory. In a letter dated February 8, 1815, to Lieutenant Samuel E. Watson he referred to "the gallant deeds performed by our Countrymen at New Orleans," and that they had "performed acts of valor scarcely to be credited, and will justly be entitled to all that a grateful country can bestow."

Colonel Wharton, in a letter dated February 4th, to Major Carmick, having in mind that the Major had been dehorsed, facetiously referred to the latter having been "thrown *horse de combat*," but suggested to the gallant Carmick that "many are so thrown without even a sprig" of laurel, of which Major Carmick had gathered "so fair a crop." The Commandant highly commended the Major and regretted to hear the "evil tidings" of his having been "severely wounded," and asked him to receive "his sincere congratulations and best wishes for an early recovery."

"The Marine Corps had its share, too," wrote J. Fenimore Cooper, in 1839, "in the honor of this glorious campaign, a small detachment of it having acted with its usual good conduct, under the command of Major Carmick, who was wounded in the affair of the 28th of December." In this connection it is only fair to Lieutenant Bellevue to say that on the 28th he, and not Major Carmick, commanded the company of Marines, the latter on that date being attached to Major Plauche's battalion. Major Carmick having been wounded in the battle of the 28th, it is quite probable that he went to the hospital and thus did not participate in the action of January 8th. However, there is no absolute proof of this latter statement.

Upton, in his *Military Policy of the United States*, wrote that the "Marines and sailors at Norfolk, Bladensburg, Baltimore and New Orleans, afforded evidence that to their subordination and courage was due the lustre they had won for our name at sea."

THE PRESIDENT CAPTURED

After the *President* had virtually defeated the British frigate *Endymion*, off Long Island, on January 15, 1815, the British ship *Pomone* came up and the *President* was compelled to surrender to a superior force.

"First Lieutenant Levi Twiggs, of the Marines, displayed great zeal," reported Captain Decatur to the Secretary of the Navy, on January 18th, and "his men were well supplied, and their fire incomparable, so long as the enemy continued within musket range."

The officers and crew, including the Marines under Lieutenant Twiggs, were carried to Bermuda, but on April 11, 1815, he reported his arrival with his detachment from Bermuda at New York to the Commandant and that they were stationed on board the *Cyane*, the *Constitution's* prize. On April 17, 1815, the Commandant wrote Lieutenant Twiggs that he was pleased to hear of his safe arrival at New York "with the guard of the late *President*."

THE CONSTITUTION CAPTURES LEVANT AND CYANE

The *Constitution* fell in with the *Cyane* and *Levant* on February 20, 1815, near Madeira Island. The battle started at 6.00 p.m., and "after a spirited engagement of forty minutes" both enemy vessel surrendered.

Among the American casualties were Privates Antonio Farrow and William Horrell, who were killed, and Sergeant Benjamin Norcross and Privates Patrick Cane, William Holmes and Andrew Chambers who were wounded.

Captain Stewart in a general order dated February 23, 1815, returned "his thanks to the officers, seamen, ordinary seamen and Marines" for "their gallantry, order and discipline displayed." Captain Stewart reported that to "Captain Archibald Henderson and First Lieutenant W. H. Freeman, commanding the Marines, he owes his grateful thanks for the lively and well-directed fire kept up by the detachment under their command."

Congress resolved on February 22, 1816, to present a gold medal to Captain Charles Stewart and silver medals to the commissioned officers "in testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress of

the gallantry, good conduct, and service, of Captain Stewart, his officers and crew in the capture of the British vessels of war, the *Cyane* and the *Levant* after a brave and skilful combat."

Captain Stewart sent the flags of the *Cyane* and *Levant* and one of the muskets to the Secretary of the Navy, on May 18, 1815, by Captain Archibald Henderson, for deposit in the Navy Department "as an evidence of the veracity of the late enemy." Captain Henderson upon reporting his arrival in Washington to Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Wharton on May 23rd, informed him that he had "just arrived under orders from Captain Stewart with the flags of the two vessels captured by the *Constitution*."

A PRIVATEER VICTORY

On February 26, 1815—6 leagues to windward of Havana—the U. S. Privateer brig *Chasseur* captured H. B. schooner *St. Lawrence*. Six Americans were killed, and seven wounded, including one Marine, Aguilla Weaver.

HORNET CAPTURES PENGUIN

The *Hornet* captured the *Penguin* on March 23, 1815, in a twenty-two minute battle. During the battle, Captain Biddle, "directed the Marines and Musketry men to cease firing," on the British and hailing them asked if they surrendered. After the *Penguin* had repeatedly called out that they had surrendered, and Biddle had ceased his fire, two fellows on board the *Penguin* fired upon him and the man at the wheel. Biddle was struck on the chin, and the ball, passing around the neck went off through the cape of his surtout, wounding him severely, but not dangerously. The ruffians did not escape, however, for they were observed by two of Biddle's Marines, who leveled and laid them dead upon the deck at the instant. Among the casualties on the *Hornet* were Private David Town (killed).

Captain Biddle reported to Secretary of the Navy R. W. Crowninshield that it was "a most pleasing part of his duty to acquaint you that the conduct of First Lieutenant Brownlow of the Marines," and the other "officers, seamen and Marines," was "in the highest degree creditable to them," and called for his "warmest commendation." "I cannot indeed do justice to their merits," he wrote.

Lieutenant Brownlow was ordered to Washington by Captain Biddle "in charge of the colors of the *Penguin* and despatches for the government."

On February 22, 1816, Congress in view of the "good conduct and services" in the capture of the *Penguin* "after a brave and skilful combat," resolved to present medals to the officers of the *Hornet*.

The following anecdote, published in the *National Intelligencer*, and *Niles Register* forms part of our Naval traditions: "In the late action with the *Penguin*, a private Marine of the *Hornet* named Michael Smith (who had served under the gallant Captain Porter in the *Essex*, when she was murdered by the British squadron at Valparaiso) received a shot through the upper part of the thigh, which fractured the bone, and nearly at the same moment had the same thigh broken immediately above the knee by the spanker boom of the *Hornet*, which was carried away by the enemy's bowsprit, while afoul of her. In this situation, while bleeding upon the deck and unable to rise, he was seen to make exertions to discharge his musket at the enemy on the top-gallant forecastle of the *Penguin*—this, however, the poor fellow was unable to accomplish; and was compelled to be carried below. This is what I call *true blue*. The Yankees, like game-cocks, will peck to the last."

A STEAM FRIGATE AROUSES CURIOSITY

"The novelty of a steam frigate" being built by the Navy Department at Baltimore, Md., attracted "so much attention that the persons employed there" had great "difficulty at working on her" and since it was "very desirable, without improperly interfering with the views of the inquiring or curious" persons to prevent interference with the work, Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Wharton on February 2, 1815, directed Captain Alfred Grayson, who commanded the Marines at Baltimore, "to furnish a small Guard of Marines." Captain Grayson received positive orders to have "no contentions" with "the citizens."

POST AT CHARLESTON, S. C., RECOMMENDED

The post at Charleston, S. C., had been abandoned in April, 1813. On February 6, 1815, the Commandant recommended to the Secretary of the Navy that the Marine Barracks should be reestablished there.

AT SACKETTS HARBOR

The war being over, the importance of the post at Sacketts Harbor on Lake Ontario dwindled. Captain Richard Smith left Sacketts Harbor with a large detachment in April, 1815, and on May 1st

reported his arrival at New York on April 30th, with Captains John Heath and William Strong, First Lieutenants William L. Boyd and Charles R. Broom, 13 sergeants, 12 corporals and 125 other enlisted men.

The muster roll of Sacketts Harbor shows that 67 Marines were transferred to First Lieutenant Lyman Kellogg by Captain Smith on April 15, 1815. From this date until July 7, 1815, Lieutenant Kellogg had a very small detachment with him, while from the latter date to October 12, 1815, he had 61 Marines at his post. In 1816, this post was called "Fort Tompkins (Sacketts Harbor)."

THE RENCONTRE BETWEEN THE PEACOCK AND NAUTILUS

On June 30, 1815, the *Peacock* (Captain Warrington) had a rencontre with the English brig *Nautilus* in the Straits of Sunda (between Sumatra and Java). When abreast of Anjier the *Peacock* closed with the *Nautilus*, which was completely cleared for action and appeared at the time to be a vessel of war. The British commander hailed and asked if the *Peacock* knew there was a peace. The Americans were totally unaware that peace had been concluded and believed that the question was but a "finesse on his part to amuse" the *Peacock* until the *Nautilus* could place herself under the protection of the fort at Anjier. Accordingly Captain Warrington ordered the *Nautilus* to haul down her colors or he would open fire. The Englishman elected to fight, and one of the forward guns of the *Peacock* opened the engagement. It was returned and a general engagement resulted in the capture of the *Nautilus*. The musketry fire of the Marines was very effective and an important factor in the victory. Upon finding out that his country and England were at peace, Captain Warrington, after making such repairs to the *Nautilus* as was practicable, released her.

WAR WITH ALGIERS IN 1815

No sooner had the United States destroyed her Navy—selling the *Alliance* in 1785, the last of the Revolutionary Navy—than the Dey of Algiers took advantage of the helpless condition of the United States and began to capture American vessels in the Mediterranean and adjacent waters. The Act of March 27, 1794, authorized the acquisition of six frigates, but unfortunately also provided that all work on them should cease if peace were had with Algiers. This unhappy contingency arose on September 25, 1795, when a treaty was concluded between the United States and Hassan Bashaw, Dey of Algiers, in

which the United States solemnly agreed to pay tribute to Algiers annually, while the latter state promised to refrain from all piratical tactics.

This treaty was lived up to until about 1812. In that year Hadji Ali (Dey of Algiers), surnamed *The Tiger*, annulled this treaty on the ground that the quantity and quality of a tribute shipment of "maritime stores" was not in accord with the terms of the treaty. These stores were sent out on the *Allegheny*, and Tobias Lear, the American Consul, returned to America in that vessel.

The Algerine fleet immediately started active operations against American merchant vessels in the summer of 1812. The American brig *Edwin* was captured and her crew carried into slavery. She was the only capture and the United States offered \$3,000 each for the prisoners, but the offer was refused. However, at the end of our Second War with Great Britain in 1815, America was better prepared than she was in 1785 or 1812, and our naval force, which was quite considerable, was available for active operations against these Barbary *Corsairs*.

WAR VIRTUALLY DECLARED AGAINST ALGIERS

On March 3, 1815, less than a fortnight after peace was made with England, President Madison approved an Act of Congress making it lawful for the President to employ armed vessels of the United States "for protecting effectually the commerce and seamen thereof on the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean and adjoining Seas." It also authorized the President to instruct the commanding officers of our naval vessels to "subdue, seize, and make prize of all vessels, goods and effects of or belonging to the Dey of Algiers, or his subjects," and also "to cause to be done all such other acts of precaution or hostility, as a state of war will justify." While this was not an express declaration of war, it was a formal statement that a state of war existed.

Two squadrons were immediately formed to proceed to the Mediterranean, one under Commodore Stephen Decatur, and the other under Commodore William Bainbridge. The latter squadron, however, did not arrive in European waters until after a treaty of peace had been concluded between the two countries. William Shaler, Commodore William Bainbridge, and Commodore Stephen Decatur were appointed a joint commission to arrange the peace.

The Marines serving on Decatur's Squadron were as follows: Flagship *Guerriere*: Captain John Hall and Captain William Strong;

Macedonian: First Lieutenant John Harris and Second Lieutenant Henry W. Kennedy; *Constellation*: First Lieutenant Thomas W. Legge; *Ontario*: Second Lieutenant James I. Mills; *Flambeau*: Sergeant John Warren, in charge; *Spitfire*: Sergeant Ferrence McGurgan in charge; *Torch*: Sergeant John Holcom in charge; and the *Spark*, *Epervier*, *Firefly*, and *Peacock* also carried Marines. The *Firefly* put back to New York.

Commodore Decatur requested that all the officers and crew of the *President* (who had just arrived from Bermuda) who desired to join the Flagship *Guerriere* be permitted to join him, and the entire crew responded.

Decatur's Squadron sailed from New York on May 20, 1815, carrying as a passenger William Shaler, one of the three Commissioners.

FRIGATE MASHOUDA CAPTURED

On June 17th, off Cape de Gat, the *Constellation* fell in with the Algerine frigate *Mashouda* and immediately engaged her. The *Guerriere* entered the fight and the Algerine vessel was soon a shamble. The musketry fire of the Marines was an important factor in the victory. A great gun on the *Guerriere* exploded during the action, killing five and wounding thirty. The Algerine frigate attempted to escape during the temporary lull caused by this accident, but after some wonderful work by the *Epervier* she surrendered.

A prize crew and a detachment of Marines to guard the 406 prisoners was placed on board the *Mashouda*, and the vessel sent into Carthagena under the escort of the *Macedonian*. The *Guerriere* had one killed and many wounded in this engagement in addition to the casualties caused by the gun explosion.

On June 19, 1815, off Cape Palos, the Squadron drove the Algerine *Estedio* on the beach, captured her, and sent her into Carthagena.

THE "NO-TRIBUTE" TREATY

The Squadron arrived at Algiers on June 28, 1815. Decatur and Shaler informed Dey Omar Pacha, "The Terrible Omar" (who had succeeded Dey Hadji Ali on March 23rd by the Assassin Route) that no treaty involving the payment of tribute would be made. Acceding to this and other demands a treaty was signed by the Dey in Algiers on June 30th, and by Shaler and Decatur on board the *Guerriere* on July 6, 1815.

All the Americans who had been held as prisoners were sent on

board the *Epervier* and that vessel shortly after sailed for home carrying these prisoners, the Treaty and a joint letter signed by Decatur and Shaler. After leaving Gibraltar the *Epervier* was never heard of, and to this day remains one of those mysteries of the sea.

Mr. Shaler landed at Algiers as Consul General and was received with honor. The *Mashouda* and *Estedio* were returned.

This treaty of 1815, discarded *tribute* forever, as far as the United States was concerned. Europe, however, was not liberated from the "tribute and slavery" of the Corsairs until after the bombardment of Algiers on July 29, 1816, by Lord Exmouth's British Squadron and the Dutch Fleet.

The Treaty with Algiers which had been signed by Shaler and Decatur on board the *Guerriere* was followed by a more formal one which was signed on December 23, 1816, by William Shaler and Commodore Isaac Chauncey, who had been appointed Commissioners by President Madison on August 24, 1816.

BAINBRIDGE'S SQUADRON ARRIVES IN MEDITERRANEAN

The squadron of Commodore Bainbridge arrived in the Mediterranean in August, 1815, and joined Decatur at Gibraltar with the Flagship *Independence*, *Congress*, *Erie*, *Chippewa*, and *Lynx*.

Commodore Decatur arrived in the United States on November 12, 1815, and Commodore Bainbridge three days later.

On November 15, 1815, Second Lieutenant Singleton Duval, on board the *Independence*, wrote to Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton that he had "the honor this day to inform you of my arrival here at [Newport] after a remarkably pleasant passage of forty days from Gibraltar." Lieutenant Duval wrote that the squadron consisted of the Flagship *Independence*, *Macedonian*, *Congress*, *Chippewa*, *Firefly*, *Boxer*, *Saranac*, *Spark*, *Torch* and *Spitfire*. He further wrote that "Commodore Decatur put an end to our career before our arrival," and that it had been "a great disappointment, his making a peace so soon." Major John Hall, Captain William Hall, First Lieutenant Henry Olcott, First Lieutenant F. B. White and First Lieutenant John Harris had been left in the Mediterranean although many others had "applied to stay but could not obtain that favor."

COMMODORE CHAUNCEY'S SQUADRON

The American Squadron in the Mediterranean, under Commodore Isaac Chauncey, broke up winter quarters at Port Mahon, Minorca,

and sailed for Algiers where it dropped anchor early in April, 1816. The squadron consisted of the *Java*, *Constellation*, *Erie*, and *John Adams*, while the sloop of war *Ontario* was at Marseilles. Upon arrival in Algiers, the Americans found Lord Exmouth's British squadron and the Dutch Fleet there.

The appearance of Chauncey's vessels off Algiers caused great alarm to the Algerines, who immediately placed their flotilla in an advantageous position and made every possible preparation for a vigorous offense. Matters soon calmed down, however, and the treaty negotiations were commenced and successfully concluded without any material difficulty. This treaty was signed on December 23, 1816, by William Shaler and Commodore Isaac Chauncey who had been appointed commissioners for this purpose by President Madison. With but slight changes this treaty replaced that signed in 1815 by Decatur and Shaler.

The frigate *Java* was designated to carry back to America, Mr. Handy, Secretary of the Mission, with a copy of this treaty and despatches to the Government. This vessel anchored at Newport, R. I., in March, 1817. Her Marine officers were Captain John Heath and First Lieutenant Parke G. Howle. On March 3, 1817, the former wrote Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton reporting the arrival of the *Java* "in 37 days passage from Gibraltar." The strength of the guard was "3 sergeants, 3 corporals, 3 musics and 46 privates."

Difficulties with Tunis arose shortly after this, but were straightened out by the Navy. In September, 1817, owing to some differences with the Bey of Tunis, the whole American squadron was drawn up before that town and preparation made for an attack; but the affair was adjusted without recourse to actual armed force.

In November, 1817, First Lieutenant Joseph L. Kuhn assumed the duties of "Commanding Marine Officer in the Mediterranean," on board the *Washington*.

The frigate *Constellation* anchored in Hampton Roads on December 26, 1817, in 44 days from Gibraltar. She brought back Captains William Hall and H. B. Breckinridge, to be honorably discharged under the terms of the Peace Establishment Act of March 3, 1817. The *Constellation* left Commodore Chauncey's squadron, consisting of the *United States*, *Peacock*, and *Spark* at Gibraltar, while the *Erie* was at Marseilles.

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DINNER AND BALL TO GENERAL JACKSON

Major John Peter, of Georgetown, presided at a dinner on November 28, 1815, to General Andrew Jackson, the hero of New Orleans, at Crawford's Hotel. "After the cloth was removed many excellent toasts were drunk, with great enthusiasm, accompanied with appropriate airs between each from the Band of the Marine Corps, and several sentimental and humorous songs." The toast to General Jackson was drank standing, in a bumper, as the Marine Band, led by Charles S. Ashworth, played *Jackson's March*.

The Marine Band played at the "Drawing Rooms" held at the President's House during this season, the first taking place on the sixth of December, 1815.

On December 7, 1815, a ball to General Jackson was given at McKeowin's Hotel, American battle flags from New Orleans being used to decorate the rooms. The Marine Band was specially asked for by the Committee on Arrangements, and added much to the festivity of the occasion.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1816

Upon their return to Washington after the invasion of the British in August, 1814, President and Mrs. Madison took up their residence at the Octagon House on the northeast corner of New York Avenue and 18th Street. Many entertainments were given there. The Treaty of Ghent was signed there. General Jackson was entertained under its roof. About one year later the Madisons moved to the building known as the "Six Buildings," on the corner of 19th and Pennsylvania Avenue. There the President and Mrs. Madison received, on New Year's Day, 1816, those Members of both houses of Congress, and others, disposed to pay their respects. The concourse was unusually large. Among those present was the hero of the Mediterranean—the gallant Decatur—and the brave General Ripley. The music of the Marine Band added to the gayety and pleasure of the day.

Levees were held by the President and Mrs. Madison throughout the month of February of this year, and the Marine Band supplied musical entertainment.

THE CORPS REDUCED

The year 1816, following the close of the war, found the usual successful efforts made to reduce the military and naval service, including the Marine Corps. The Corps had been increased during the

war, in 1814, and at its close the efforts toward national economy was cheerfully joined in by the Marines. On January 24, 1816, the Commandant received orders from Secretary of the Navy R. W. Crowninshield, to reduce the Corps "to the number of 1000 men, including non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates; and retaining the commissioned officers and staff upon the present establishment." The authorized commissioned strength was thus 92 and the enlisted strength 2522.

A DUEL

In 1816, First Lieutenant Joseph L. Kuhn, of the Marine Corps, fought a duel with a foreign officer, but survived despite newspaper stories to the contrary.

THE MARINE BAND VERY BUSY

A number of the citizens of Pennsylvania, then in Washington, and the greater part of the Pennsylvania Delegation in Congress, on "the glorious Eighth of January," 1816, gave a dinner at McKeowin's Hotel to Commodore Decatur and Captain Stewart. Captain Biddle arrived in town the evening before and honored the company with his presence. The company sat down to dinner at five o'clock and "spent the evening with the purest harmony and good humor." After the cloth was removed many toasts were drunk, accompanied with highly patriotic songs and music by the Marine Band. The words of a hastily written song was sang to the tune of *Anacreon in Heaven* (Air of the "Star Spangled Banner") the Marine Band furnishing the music.

On February 23, 1816, "Coleman's celebrated Comedy in five acts," entitled the "Poor Gentleman," and the farce of the "Jew and Doctor," were played at the Washington Theatre. The comic songs of *The Waterman*, *Young Lobski*, *Go My Love*, and *Bold Dragon*, were sung between the play and the farce. The advertisements in the newspapers carried the special inducement to attend that "The Elegant Band of Music attached to the Marine Corps, will attend Gratis."

The ball in honor of the natal day of Washington, on February 22, 1816, at McKeowin's Hotel, was more than usually brilliant and the music of the Marine Band was no small part of the affair.

The fourth of July was not forgotten in 1816. After the usual salutes in the morning, processions and receptions, many dinners were held in the afternoon. At about four o'clock a large party of

gentlemen, assembled to celebrate the glorious festival of the anniversary of American Independence, partook of an excellent dinner at McKeowin's Hotel. Accompanied with songs and music from the Marine Band, and announced by repeated discharges of artillery, many toasts were drunk.

SPANIARDS FIRE ON FIREBRAND

Friction with Spain around the Gulf of Mexico was frequent this year. The Spaniards, among other things, had confined some American and British seamen in their jails at Santa Martha and Carthagena, and upon hearing of this outrage President Madison directed the Secretary of the Navy to immediately despatch a naval vessel to those ports for the purpose of carrying Mr. Christopher Hughes, a commissioner appointed by the President, to demand the release of the American prisoners.

The *Macedonian* at half past five on the afternoon of April 29, 1816, "up and made sail" from Boston, carrying on board the Commissioner. The *Macedonian* on May 28, 1816, "at 4.00 p.m., made Santa Martha, bearing SSW" and came to anchor at 1.00 p.m. the 29th. The Commissioner successfully attended to his business at this port and at 5.30 p.m., May 31st the *Macedonian* "weighed and sailed" for Carthagena. On June 8th at 11.30 a.m. the American vessel "came to anchor off Carthagena," and on the 12th "received the following men on board from Prison as supernumeraries for victuals." Then followed in the Log a list of five American and British seamen who had been captured at various dates. Mr. Hughes successfully accomplished his mission and the *Macedonian* sailed at 7.00 a.m., June 12, 1816, for Santa Martha, from which port they sailed for home. The Marine officer on board the *Macedonian* was Second Lieutenant Singleton Duvall, and on July 7, 1816, he wrote Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton reporting his arrival at Annapolis on that date, in 17 days from Santa Martha. Lieutenant Duvall expressed the hope that "the ensuing Congress will declare war against Spain that we may teach them how to love and respect us."

Troubles with the Don, however, continued and the Marines of the *Firebrand* figured prominently in one notorious incident. At day-break, August 27, 1816, the *Firebrand*, commanded by Lieutenant Charles S. Cunningham, U. S. Navy, not far from Vera Cruz, found herself near three Spanish warships—the ship *Diana* (24), and the

hermaphrodite brigs *Cassidor* (18) and *Le Gera* (18). The *Diana* and *Cassidor* made for the *Firebrand*. Without hailing, the *Cassidor*, when within pistol shot, fired some of her cannon, loaded with grape and canister, into the American vessel, and also a volley of musketry. "Captain Cunningham immediately leaped upon a gun and hailed, stating who" they "were and demanded the cause of the firing from the Spanish. The firing continued, intermingled with the most vulgar and billingsgate abuse." A "single musket aimed from the quarter-deck of the *Cassidor*, and evidently intended for Captain Cunningham, who was conspicuous by his elevation on the gun, and his epaulette," was fired; but "fortunately, by a few inches missed aim, and entered the breast of a Marine, and lodged in his neck." The Spaniards after more insults and abuse allowed the ship to go on after telling the Americans that they could not sail the Gulf. The idea of the Spaniards was to precipitate a fight, sink the *Firebrand* and all-hands and then publish their own explanations.

The courts-martial that tried Lieutenant Cunningham, honorably acquitted and praised him for his discretion and valor. The press describing the incident called it an "unexpected and dastardly attack," and stated that public feelings had been strongly excited by this rencontre, and that "all our Naval force in that neighborhood has been directed to put to sea to protect our flag from insult; and lest hostilities should be seriously intended the *Congress*, Captain Morris, has been ordered to cruise in that sea."

The *Congress* sailed from Boston, November 15, 1816, and was in the Gulf by December, 1816, and had sufficient force "to convince the Dons that he had a right to navigate in that part of the sea." First Lieutenant William Nicoll commanding the 47 Marines on the *Congress*, on December 12, 1816, wrote Colonel Wharton that "after a passage of twenty-five days" the *Congress* had arrived off the Balize near New Orleans. The *Congress* arrived back at Norfolk late in September, 1817, from a cruise of South America. After leaving Cape Henry, Haiti, she cruised "along the main" touching at Margarrita, Cumana, Barcelona, and at Latuiva, from whence she sailed for the United States.

PIRACY AROUND NEW ORLEANS

When Commander Porter took command of the New Orleans station in 1807, he found the Mississippi open to French privateers. Acting on his own responsibility, he seized three of these by a boat

expedition, which included Marines, and had them condemned in spite of local feeling. Commodore Daniel T. Patterson, who commanded the flotilla and station during the British invasion in 1814-1815, was as ready to act in the campaign against the Corsairs as in General Jackson's defense of New Orleans.

About May 1, 1815, "one of the United States armed vessels" at New Orleans, "went in pursuit of one of the vessels belonging to the pirates of Barataria which had then in company a Spanish prize," and captured her. The pirates including the Commanding Officer, jumped overboard and escaped.

On November 10, 1815, the U. S. Brig *Tom Bowling* sailed from New York for New Orleans with the announced purpose of pursuing pirates around New Orleans. On October 12, 1815, the Secretary of the Navy directed the Commandant to order Major Carmick at New Orleans to put a Marine Guard on board her immediately upon her arrival there.

The Lafitte Brothers (who led the buccaneers of Barataria prior to 1815) were warmly commended for their assistance during the battles around New Orleans in January, 1815, and President Madison complied with General Jackson's covenant with them by issuing a general pardon for the men of Barataria.

GALVESTON, A FREEBOOTERS' HEADQUARTERS

After the Second War with Great Britain, a new squadron of Corsairs were soon seeking markets and harbors of refuge adjacent to the shores of the United States. Headquarters of the largest group of these buccaneers was established at Galveston, on the Gulf, in the territory of Mexico. The commandant at Galveston was known throughout the West Indies as "Commodore Aury," though it was never clear whether his authority for any particular capture was derived from Mexico or Colombia. Before the summer of 1817 was over, Aury abandoned Galveston and sailed for the east coast of Florida; but Galveston remained a rendezvous for pirates for the following three years. Jean Lafitte, commissioned by Mexico, took the place of Aury, and by the end of 1817 over a thousand freebooters had rallied under his flag.

These buccaneers had commissions from Buenos Ayres, Venezuela, Mexico, etc., and under these flags they plundered American vessels. The result was that Commodore Daniel T. Patterson, commanding the naval station at New Orleans, directed his vessels to

convoy American shipping, in that neighborhood. American Marines shared in this duty, which was performed at the request of our merchants who traded with Mexican ports.

President Monroe's first annual message expressly referred to this subject and his Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams, on December 29, 1817; in his official papers referred to "that buccaneering and piratical spirit which has lately appeared among the South Americans," etc.

Matters became so oppressive that the Navy, under directions from Washington, finally cleared Galveston of its piratical gang. As a matter of fact, however, our naval ships were always received by the Lafittes in a friendly manner at Galveston. For instance, the Marines of the U. S. Schooner *Lynx*, as well as the others on board that vessel, saw an interesting sight when their vessel approached the Galveston bar on November 8, 1819. "A gibbet on the point of Galveston with a man hanging" on it was observed. The commanding officer of the *Lynx* was informed that the victim was one Brown who had robbed an American vessel on the coast of Texas, who had been wanted by the naval authorities, and for whom the *Lynx* was then searching.

On January 3, 1820, Pierre Lafitte filed an offer with Commodore Patterson "to clear Galveston and disband its inhabitants," with a pledge from both of the Lafitte brothers that it should never again become a rendezvous for persons cruising under their authority. Commodore Patterson accepted the offer, and when the *Lynx* visited Galveston on June 19, 1820, she found that spot clear of pirates and the buildings razed.

PIRACY IN THE WEST INDIES

The Marines of the U. S. S. *Boxer* also assisted in pulling down the Black Flag. While lying in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, on March 20, 1816, the *Boxer* received information of piratical acts occurring in the neighborhood. Proceeding to sea she fell in with and captured the pirate schooner *Comet* early in April. The buccaneer vessel was commanded by the famous pirate *Mitchell* (one of the crew of the British frigate *Hermione*) and another small vessel laden with ammunition and other stores which the pirate had with him for his own use. The Pirate had on board specie, jewelry, and other material amounting in value to \$160,000.

JOHN POWLEY SUCCEEDS CHARLES S. ASHWORTH AS LEADER OF BAND

The enlistment of Drum Major Charles S. Ashworth expired on October 16, 1816, and after a long and successful career of twelve years as Leader of the Marine Band he decided to leave the Marine Corps. Marine Corps Headquarters advertised for a competent leader to succeed him. In a letter to Major Anthony Gale at Philadelphia, Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton requested him to advertise for a Drum Major in Philadelphia, but Colonel Wharton reserved to himself "the right of selecting." The Commandant also directed Major Richard Smith, in New York, to advertise for a successor to Ashworth. On November 7, 1816, Major Smith informed the Commandant that since his "advertisement for a Drum Major, several applications" had been made to him "for that situation; but none of them as respects qualification and character," would answer "except John Powley, whose papers and letter of recommendation were forwarded to the Commandant." Major Smith was of the opinion that "from the genteel appearance of Powley," he would satisfy the Commandant. Powley visited Washington in order that the Commandant might look him over, and was accepted. He returned to New York, fell ill, and it was not until April 10, 1817, that he arrived in Washington to assume the duties of leading the Marine Band. On February 10, 1817, Major Smith informed the Commandant that Powley had reported to him the day before "but in consequence of the navigation being closed, he will not be able to proceed to Headquarters until the ice opens." Powley was born in Germany and was 55 years of age when enlisting. In the meantime Fife Major Venerando Pulizzi acted as Leader of the Band.

DEATH OF MAJOR CARMICK AT NEW ORLEANS

Major Daniel Carmick (who was wounded on December 28, 1815, during the battle at New Orleans) died at New Orleans on November 6, 1816, "at one o'clock in the morning in the United States Naval Hospital." His body was interred the following day "with the honors of war," and "the great concourse of people who accompanied him to his last abode, sufficiently showed the esteem he had enjoyed during his life." Major Carmick "was a Pennsylvanian by birth, noble, generous and brave," reported the *National Intelligencer*, and "left an amiable wife with her infant child to mourn her irreparable loss. The United States in him has lost one

of its best officers, society, both civil and military a social friend and a gallant soldier." The MARINE CORPS GAZETTE of March, 1923, contains information of his military career, while an earlier part of this article describes the active and gallant part he played in the Battle of New Orleans.

First Lieutenant Francis Barbin De Bellevue succeeded Major Carmick in command of the New Orleans Marine Barracks.

PRESIDENT MADISON'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION, 1817

Never, perhaps, was the New Year in Washington preceded by a happier season than that of 1817. Winter held back, as though unwilling to advance; the air was as temperate and the sun as benign, as usually in October.

President and Mrs. Madison, as usual, received the compliments of the season from a great number of the members of both Houses of Congress, the Heads of Departments, Naval, Marine and Army officers and other officers of the Government, "foreign ministers, citizens and strangers." The inspiring airs of the Marine Band, led by Fife Major Venerando Pulizzi, added to the occasion.

Dancing was as popular a pastime in Washington society in 1817, as now, and the Marine Band was kept busy. "Mr. and Mrs. Schira, dancers, from the King's Theatre and Italian Opera of London and from the Theatre of Lisbon," conducted a "grand ball," at which the Marine Band played, on February 19, 1817, in the ballroom of Davis' Hotel (up to late 1816, McKeowin's). Signor and Madam Schira danced a *pas de deux*, *a pas seul*, *a horn pipe*, a Spanish dance accompanied with castanets, concluding with an *Allemande* and *waltzing*. The ball had been postponed from February 7th "in consequence of the Marine Band being called off to Alexandria."

The Fifth City Assembly of Washington took place at Davis's Hotel, in honor of the memory of George Washington, on February 21, 1817, the "eve of the anniversary of the birth of that great man." The regular "Birth Night Ball" was celebrated on February 20, 1817, at the Union Tavern, Georgetown, since this Assembly preempted the 21st. The Marine Band assisted on both occasions.

PRESIDENT MONROE INAUGURATED

James Madison retired from office after two terms as President, on March 4, 1817, James Monroe, "The Last Cocked Hat," succeeding him. It was a delightful day. The inaugural ceremonies and the spectacle were simple, but grand, animating and impressive. At half-

past eleven, Mr. Monroe, and Vice President-elect Daniel D. Tompkins left the private residence of the President-elect, attended by a large cavalcade of citizens on horseback, marshalled by General Van Ness, General Mason, Adjutant General Cox and Major Walter Jones. These horsemen had convened on the open space in front of the Franklin Hotel (O'Neale's). Mr. Monroe reached the Hall of Congress a little before noon; at the same time President Madison arrived and also the Judges of the Supreme Court. Here he was received "with military honors, by the Marine Corps," including the Marine Band, which was led by Fife Major Venerando Pulizzi. After the usual ceremonies the oath of office, which was administered to James Monroe by Chief Justice John Marshall, was announced by a single gun, followed by salutes from the Navy Yard, the battery from Fort Warburton, and from several pieces of artillery on the ground, manned by the Marines. When President Monroe departed, the Marines rendered the same honors as when he arrived.

The evening concluded with a splendid inaugural ball at Davis' Hotel. President Monroe, ex-President Madison and their Ladies, the Heads of Departments, Foreign Ministers, and an "immense throng of strangers, and citizens," attended, while the Marine Band furnished the music.

THE PEACE ESTABLISHMENT ACT

The Act of March 3, 1817, known as the Peace Establishment Act, made it necessary to reduce the number of commissioned officers in the Marine Corps. It was provided that those officers discharged "shall be paid three months additional pay." Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton retained his rank, but the Act did not provide for any majors. This law provided that the Marine Corps "shall consist of one Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, nine captains, twenty-four first lieutenants, sixteen second lieutenants, one Adjutant and Inspector, one Paymaster and one Quartermaster to be taken from the said Captains and Lieutenants, 73 corporals, 42 drums and fifes, and 750 privates." The non-commissioned staff and sergeants were unintentionally excluded by this Act, but were subsequently ordered to be retained by President Monroe. Thus the enlisted strength was one Sergeant Major, one Quartermaster Sergeant, one Drum Major, one Fife Major, 73 Sergeants, 73 Corporals, 42 Drummers and Fifers, and 750 Privates. This made a total strength of 50 commissioned officers and 942 enlisted men, a grand total of 992 Marines.

On April 30, 1817, the Commandant performed the disagreeable duty of informing the "plucked" officers that they had been dropped from the Marine Corps by operation of law. He then notified the other officers that they had been retained and distributed the senior officers at the various posts as commanding officers. Captain Anthony Gale went from Philadelphia to New Orleans; Captain John M. Gamble to Philadelphia; Captain William Anderson went from Sackett's Harbor to Gosport (Norfolk); Captain Archibald Henderson to Portsmouth, N. H.; Captain R. D. Wainwright to Boston; and Captain Richard Smith to New York. Smaller posts were also maintained at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., and Erie, Penna.

AT ERIE, PA.

The tragic death of First Lieutenant John Brooks, Jr., in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813, made it necessary to order an officer to take charge at Erie. First Lieutenant Benjamin Hyde was selected for the post. Lieutenant Hyde had proceeded to the Lakes with Captain Sinclair of the Navy. The Secretary of the Navy, on February 26, 1813, had ordered the Commandant to "furnish Captain Sinclair with a Guard for the expedition upon which he" was then proceeding, and on March 3rd, Lieutenant Hyde was directed by the Commandant to report to Captain Sinclair with a detachment of one sergeant, four corporals and 25 privates.

On November 3, 1813, Lieutenant Hyde wrote the Commandant that Commodore Chauncey had ordered him to Erie to take command there, and these orders were formally approved by the Commandant. On November 18th, the Commandant acknowledged receipt of a letter from Lieutenant Hyde stating that he had obeyed the order. On November 25th, the Commandant informed Lieutenant Hyde that he "considered him in the same situation as the late Lieutenant Brooks was," and he should therefore "attend to all the duties he had to perform, and among them that of recruiting for the Corps."

Lieutenant Hyde continued in command of the Erie Barracks until his death on February 10, 1815. First Lieutenant Samuel B. Johnston assumed command in 1815. On October 23, 1817, Lieutenant Johnston informed the Commandant that Captain Stephen Decatur had ordered him to command the Marine Guard of the brig *Niagara*. The barracks was still maintained ashore, however, and at a later date Lieutenant John Harris was selected to command it.

BOOK REVIEW

CAPTAIN COMSTOCK, U.S.M.C. By Lieutenant Colonel Giles Bishop, Jr., U.S.M.C. The Penn Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

It is with the greatest pleasure that the *GAZETTE* welcomes the latest book by Colonel Bishop, one of the most widely known of the writers and literary men which the Marine Corps has produced. Writing in his favorite field, for boys from twelve to seventeen, Colonel Bishop's latest literary venture deals with the adventures of Richard Comstock, Marine, as a member of the Fourth Brigade in France. Beginning with his hero as a lieutenant in the training area, Colonel Bishop narrates in a vivid manner the experiences of the junior officer of a company, his promotion to captain and the haps and mishaps occurring in his life and the lives of a small group of his friends and associates among the officers and enlisted men throughout the actions of the war, from Belleau Wood to the Meuse-Argonne, and through the occupation in the Coblenz Area.

The story is graphically told and the plot holds the reader's interest to the end. Twined through it is the love story of the hero with a beautiful American-French girl who is acting as a member of a French nursing corps while misunderstandings and the enmity of his former school-days rival furnishes the darker motif of the tale. In the end, however, all these are satisfactorily cleared up and the tale is brought to a happy conclusion.

The story is told against a background of the history of the Marine Brigade and of the A.E.F. as a whole. Battles and battle experiences are indicated but not overemphasized in the story, while the plan of the campaign in which the American forces participated, which resulted in the winning of the war, is told in a manner easily comprehensible.

The story is a splendid addition to the series of works which Colonel Bishop has written, and in preparing it he has performed a most valuable service to the Corps in presenting to youthful America an entertaining and valuable picture of the work done by the Corps in the World War.

Other books by Colonel Bishop of the same series are: "The Marines Have Landed," "The Marines Have Advanced," and "Lieutenant Comstock, U. S. Marine."

